

# THE TIMES



No 61,555

FRIDAY JUNE 10 1983

20p

## Labour Party reconciled to defeat by the Tories even before polls open

### Foot and Healey likely to pay price of failure

- Both Mr Michael Foot and Mr Denis Healey are expected to be blamed for Labour's election performance, but will remain until October.
- Nominations for leader and deputy leader of the Labour Party, elected by its MPs, close on July 15.
- More than a hundred people were arrested for alleged personation in Northern Ireland, where many voted early to prevent vote stealing.

- An army and police base near a polling station in west Belfast was bombed by the Irish National Liberation Army.
- The TUC decided that it will talk seriously to ministers if a Tory government pursues policies the Labour movement regard as constructive.
- The pound, shares and government stocks all edged higher, reflecting the confidence of the financial markets in a decisive Conservative victory.

By Julian Haviland and Anthony Bevins

Mr Michael Foot and Mr Denis Healey are both expected to pay the price of the defeat to which the Labour Party was reconciled even before the polls opened yesterday.

But they will remain as leader and deputy leader of the party until the annual party conference, which opens at Brighton on October 3.

Nominations for the two positions close on July 15, according to party headquarters yesterday. Each candidate needs the support of only 5 per cent of the newly elected parliamentary party for his name to go forward.

Mr Foot's friends do not believe that he will want to remain as leader. He will be 70 on July 23. It has even been suggested this week that in the event of a heavy defeat, Mr Foot might resign the leadership at once, a question which he has naturally refused to answer during the election campaign.

It is thought that he would only do so if he wished Mr Healey to be confirmed as the next leader.

The party constitution says: "When the party leader, for whatever reason, becomes permanently unavailable, the deputy party leader shall automatically become party leader until a new party leader is elected at a party conference."

If Mr Foot were to resign tomorrow, therefore, Mr Healey would take over and, by October, he would have had three months to prove his effectiveness to the unions, to the constituency parties, and his new Commons colleagues.

But well before polling day the mood of the party had become such as to eliminate this option. Although Mr Foot has at no time made any public criticism of his deputy, many of their colleagues have been dismayed by Mr Healey's behaviour during the four-week campaign.

His central office has been to draw public attention to the contradictions contained in his concordat with Mr Foot over the party's non-nuclear defence policy.

The wording of the manifesto, with key sections dictated by Mr Healey, was designed to

The *Times* tomorrow will include a 12-page special section listing the whole of the election results, together with biographies of the new MPs. There will also be a full list of the Queen's Birthday Honours.

reconcile his multilateralism with Mr Foot's unilateralism. For the exercise to succeed, it was essential for both men to avoid the temptation to go beyond the words of the manifesto, and their necessarily limited meaning. Mr Healey failed to show the required restraint.

He had no difficulty in sticking to the letter of the manifesto on Common Market withdrawal, in spite of the equally ambiguous wording of that section.

Within a week of the election being called, as early as May 16, in televised discussion with Dr David Owen, he was volunteering versions of Labour's defence

policy which called into question the agreed commitment to "carry through in the lifetime of the next Parliament our non-nuclear defence policy."

Mr Healey's behaviour has ensured that the blame for defeat, which might otherwise have been carried by Mr Foot alone, also fall on him. It will not, therefore, be in Mr Foot's power to show favour to Mr Healey, even if he wanted to.

As for the succession, one firm of bookmakers, William Hill,

yesterday quoted Mr Roy Hattersley as the 2-1 favourite. Odds of 9-4 were offered against Mr Peter Shore, 3-1 against Mr Neil Kinnock, 6-1 against Mr Wedgwood Benn, and 8-1 against Mr Healey.

Yesterday, Mrs Margaret Thatcher was still counting no chickens when, with her husband Denis, she cast her vote at Castle Lane, Westminster, at 7.20am. "We are hopeful. I think we are going to win," she said, adding that she had had rather a short night's sleep. She told the Press Association that she wanted "a good majority, if anything better than a good majority."

Mr Foot, who toured polling stations in his Blaenau Gwent constituency, said he was very fit and healthy and very hopeful. He had already voted by post. He was strongly critical of the Conservative campaign, saying that a new low had been reached in their advertisements. "The bulk of the Conservative press has behaved in a disgraceful way," he said. "They have sought to present the issues in a trivial manner."

Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democrats, voting in his Glasgow, Hillhead, constituency, said he was calmly confident about holding his seat. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, also voted for himself, a few yards from his home at Etrickbridge. He said: "I think the country would live to regret it if there were a Tory landslide."

From all over the country, there were reports of a high rate of polling. In Birmingham, centre of a crop of vital, marginal constituencies, half the electorate at some polling stations had cast their vote by lunchtime, in spite of heavy showers when the polls opened. A Conservative spokesman said that the above-average turnout was a good sign for them.

In other parts of the country, polling reports were as mixed as the weather. In Coventry South-west and West Bromwich East, the poll by 4 pm was no more than 30 per cent, but in the South-west of England, where the weather was fine, some constituencies were expecting a turnout as high as 80 per cent.



Family portrait: Mrs Thatcher, watched by her son Mark, signing a portrait of herself in her Finchley constituency yesterday. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

### Vote-rigging and bomb disrupt Ulster polling

From Richard Ford, Belfast

An Army and police base in west Belfast was bombed by the Irish National Liberation Army yesterday as Northern Ireland went to the polls amid claims of widespread vote rigging.

More than 100 people were arrested for alleged personation and there were clashes between rival party workers over the flying of the republic's tricolour outside polling stations.

Fine weather brought a brisk turnout across the province with many people voting early in an attempt to beat vote-sealing. A high turnout was reported in Down South where Mr Enoch Powell is fighting to retain the seat and in Ulster Mid where reports that the figure could be as high as the 91.5 per cent reached in the 1969 by-election won by the then Miss Bernadette Devlin.

### Leaders on home ground visit party workers

From a Staff Reporter

After the hurry-bury of the campaign the Labour and the Alliance leaders spent the early part of the day visiting party workers in their constituencies.

At Tredgar, in South Wales, Mr Michael Foot's wife, Miss Jill Craigie, was involved in a misunderstanding when she attempted to cast her vote. Mr Foot had to point out that she was already registered for a postal vote.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, had just 20 yards to go to cast his vote in the Scottish border village of Etrickbridge.

In Glasgow, Mr Roy Jenkins, the SDP leader, said that it was the first time in 15 elections that he had voted for himself in his own constituency.

### TUC prepares to work with a Tory government

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The TUC decided yesterday that in the event of a Tory victory, it will take a pragmatic line with the new Government. It will talk seriously to ministers if the administration pursues social and economic policies regarded by the labour movement as constructive.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, is to appear on BBC and ITV television channels this morning to deliver a considered response to the election results. He will draw on the unions' tradition of straight dealing, even with administrations not to their political liking.

When Mrs Margaret Thatcher ousted the last Labour Government in 1979, the TUC said: "Democracy is not confined to putting a cross on a ballot paper once every five years, and the process of government is not carried on in Parliament alone."

Since then, the unions have complained of being ignored by the Conservative Government, and have counter-attacked by minimizing their own contacts with the administration, particularly on such issues as labour law reform.

However, there are now pressures from moderate union leaders for a "thaw" in relations with a government that has a mandate for another five years. It is argued that a popular rejection of Labour's manifesto, much of it the work of the unions themselves, compels the TUC to approach the situation differently.

Last night the unions were still clinging to the hope that Mr Foot could win the election, and different versions of a statement about the poll result were being prepared.

But a Thatcher victory was privately expected, and a formal statement of the TUC's position will be published this morning. It is expected to follow the lines of previous policy declarations, stating that the labour movement will continue to make representations on behalf of its members.

The stage has already been set by the moderat-dominated Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, whose general secretary, Mr Gavin Laird, says in his union journal "In the final analysis, the electorate will decide."

### Confident City lifts pound and shares

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Financial markets expressed quiet confidence yesterday in the prospect of a decisive Conservative election victory. The pound, shares and government stocks all edged higher amid growing hopes that an early cut in borrowing costs may be on the cards.

The pound made gains against all leading currencies, rising more than a cent against the dollar to \$1.5805 and 3 pence against the Deutsche mark to DM4.06, pushing its trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies 0.5 higher to 87.4 per cent of its 1975 level.

The FT index of 30 leading shares rose a further 1.7 to reach a new peak of 716.4, and government stocks made small gains, as investors demonstrated their approval of the policies Mrs Thatcher is expected to follow in her second term of office.

Many people in the City expect renewed surge in the financial markets over the next few days and weeks, as investors both here and overseas are attracted by the prospect of firm anti-inflation policies.

The removal of the final vestige of concern over a Labour victory, with its threat of reimposing exchange controls, may also tempt some investors who were cautiously waiting on the sidelines until the election results were known.

If the pound remains strong over the next few days, a modest cut in the clearing banks' base lending rate, now 10 per cent, seems likely. A further strengthening of sterling would be unwelcome to the Government because of the adverse impact it would have on the competitiveness of exports, growth and jobs.

In addition, without a cut in interest rates in the near future, building society mortgage rates will have to go up, which politically would be extremely unpopular.

These two factors together will probably outweigh worries about recent rapid monetary growth and signs that government borrowing may be running over target. The latest figures published yesterday showed central government borrowing may be running over target.

### Pretoria hangings a 'call to battle'

By Our Foreign Staff

The dawn hanging of three African National Congress guerrillas in Pretoria yesterday was "a call to battle" with South Africa, the outlawed ANC said yesterday in an angry statement from its headquarters-in-exile in Lusaka, Zambia.

The three - Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi, and Marcus Motung, all in their twenties - were hanged for high treason and murder over attacks on South African police stations.

In Durban 23 people were arrested during street protests, and black students at Fort Hare University in the Ciskei tribal homeland, where on Wednesday night several hundred had staged cars, boycotted classes after the hangings.

The three guerrillas were buried in Pretoria Central Prison cemetery in the absence

of their families, who had refused to attend in protest at the authorities' refusal to hand over the bodies for burial in Soweto.

Protests and appeals for clemency had flooded in from round the world, and there was anger and dismay yesterday when the sentences were carried out.

In London several people were charged after protests on Wednesday outside the South African Embassy in Trafalgar Square.

In Moscow TASS said the South African Government "perpetrated murder in cold blood" by the hangings. A report from Lusaka said South Africa "deliberately violated international law in the most flagrant way" by executing the black nationalists.

Durban arrests, page 11

### Russians spurn US arms offer

Moscow accused, page 10

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet news agency Tass yesterday dismissed President Reagan's revised strategic arms reduction (Start) proposal as "mere words".

Tass strongly indicated that the new Reagan proposal, announced on Wednesday, was still unacceptable to Moscow, saying it aimed to push the Soviet Union into unilateral disarmament.

But it avoided any direct rejection of the idea of counting warheads instead of missiles.

The Soviet Union has already said it is prepared to count warheads in the separate Geneva negotiations on medium-range nuclear missiles, and diplomats have assumed for some time that the Kremlin would not object to the same ground rules for long-range weapons.

He had conveyed "in the strongest possible terms the objection not merely of the Australian Government but of the Australian people to the continued testing of nuclear devices in the South Pacific by the French Government", Mr Hawke told a press conference.

"In the context of the lodging of that protest, I discussed with the President the question of future supplies of Australian uranium to France, and I indicated that... we would not in fact be authorizing any further shipments of Australian uranium in the foreseeable future."

Under the terms of the existing contract, however, no further shipment was due to be made until October, 1984, though the two companies involved had wanted that date to be brought forward to July this year, Mr Hawke said. So the embargo would not in practice come into effect until late next year.

He made clear that, in the meantime, the Australian Government would be using the threat of the embargo to bring pressure to bear on the French in negotiations to stop nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

Asked whether President Mitterrand had offered any concessions, Mr Hawke said that the President had emphasized that the French were committed to the maintenance of an independent nuclear force.

### Hawke puts ban on uranium shipments to France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Australia will not make any further shipments of Australian uranium to France while France continues to test atomic bombs on the Mururoa atoll in the Pacific, Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, told President Mitterrand during an official visit to Paris yesterday.

They believed that it was therefore essential to maintain a system of testing, and there was nowhere else that the testing could be done.

French officials refused to comment on the Australian decision.

The continuation of French nuclear tests was the only issue which acted as a barrier to the strengthening of relations between the two countries, Mr Hawke said. But on that issue there could be no compromise.

Last month Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, summoned the French Charge d'Affaires to protest at France's latest nuclear test. He told him that he had been led to believe by Paris that it would in future only be testing small devices.

Last month's test, the 42nd, was one of the biggest since France began underground explosions at Mururoa in 1975.

Asked whether President Mitterrand had offered any concessions, Mr Hawke said that the President had emphasized that the French were committed to the maintenance of an independent nuclear force.

### THE TIMES TOMORROW

Through the hoop Basil Boothroyd diagnoses the healthy state of play on the croquet lawns. After the election - a light-hearted way to knock the opposition in the air. Alex McWhirter, travel editor of *The Business Traveller*, picks his way through the fairs jungle. At the crease. In cricket's Prudential World Cup, the holders, West Indies, continue their campaign against Australia, and England take on Sri Lanka, one of the outsiders.

### Praise for pilot

As the Spanish cargo vessel *Alraigo* docked in Santa Cruz de Tenerife yesterday with a Royal Navy Sea Harrier lashed to its deck, experienced naval pilots in Britain were praising the skill of Sub-Lieutenant Ian Watson, its pilot, in "decking" his aircraft safely in mid-Atlantic. Congratulations have begun between the Ministry of Defence and the owners of the ship on possible compensation. Arrival and photograph, 10. Pilots' praise, back page.

### Reuters future

Reuters, the international news agency, is holding its annual meeting today amid uncertainty about its future ownership. A second dividend of £5.8m will be confirmed. Page 21

### Debendox drug withdrawn

Debendox, the morning sickness drug, which has been available all over the world for 27 years, has been withdrawn by its manufacturers after a court awarded £480,000 to a girl born with physical disabilities. Page 3

### Refit on time

Work on the refit of the luxury liner *Cunard Countess* will be completed "right on time", Maltese dockyard sources say.

### McEnroe helps

John McEnroe is supporting Guillermo Vilas, the Argentine player who has been fined \$20,000 and suspended for one year for allegedly accepting appearance money. Page 23

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## Man killed on power station site

A construction worker was killed and two others were injured when scaffolding collapsed at the Heysham 2 nuclear power station site near Morecombe, Lancashire, yesterday.

Many of the 4,000 workers on the site walked out after the accident.

The man who died was Mr Dennis Reagan, aged 52, a joiner, of Oxford Street, Lancaster. He was working for the construction firm Taylor Woodrow on the £1,500m power station, which was started in 1979 and is due to be completed in 1988.

The injured men, who fell about 100 ft, were Mr Ronald Dunn, aged 44, of Hartlepool and Mr Gary Wood, aged 23, of Lancaster.

A fire nearly a mile and a half long at British Steel's Scunthorpe works was put out by Humberbridge firemen yesterday morning. It started at about 2am on a conveyor belt carrying coke from a coke oven to blast furnaces.

## Men moved after jail trouble

Twenty-five prisoners have been transferred to the Isle of Wight after a disturbance earlier this week at Highpoint Prison, Stradishall, Suffolk, it was disclosed yesterday.

The prison authorities said that the trouble began when 50 prisoners who had been in cells in Blundstone jail, in Suffolk, were transferred to Highpoint, where they were accommodated in dormitories. A window was smashed and fire extinguishers were set off, but no one was injured.

## Pi squared by schoolboys

Two schoolboys aged 11 have been thanked by the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* for noting a mathematical error.

Justin Thorogood and Nicky Dodd were studying circles for a project at Highley Junior School, in Shropshire, when they noticed the calculation for pi in *Children's Britannica* expressed as 355 over 113.

Pi is normally given as 3.14 and after checking on a calculator the boys discovered that the correct formula should be 355 over 113.

## Woman 'died of gunshot wound'

The inquest was reopened yesterday into the death of Loretta Bick, whose body was exhumed from the Jewish cemetery in Waltham Abbey, Essex, earlier this week. At the original opening on December 2 last, Dr Albert Goonilleke, a pathologist, gave the cause of death as bruising of the brain and a fractured skull.

But at yesterday's hearing Dr Malcolm Cameron, who carried out the second post-mortem examination, said Miss Bick, of Waterfield Street, Edmonton, London died from a gunshot wound to the head. A man charged with her murder, is due to appear in court on June 23.

## Buses halted

A three-day-old unofficial strike over a colleague's dismissal by 100 bus drivers manning the Aintree Liverpool depot is to continue. It has halted more than a dozen services in north Merseyside.

## Rival church magazine planned after dispute

The editor and editorial board of *Churchman* magazine, dismissed by its proprietors, Church Society, for publishing theological articles the society did not agree with, are to try to launch a new publication with the same philosophy and readership as the old one.

Church Society, a long-established Anglican body which has recently adopted a narrower outlook, had already announced that it intended to appoint editorial advisers to oversee the policy of the Rev Peter Williams, the editor. He and his board regarded that as unacceptable.

Church Society has now announced the composition of a new editorial board "of unquestionable conservative evangelical conviction" to take over from next January, and a new editor, Dr Gerald Bray.

Meanwhile the old editorial board has sounded out the

# Mediation plea by FT as both sides blamed for deadlock

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The *Financial Times* yesterday suggested third-party mediation or arbitration as a way out of the deadlock in the paper's 10-day-old dispute with the National Graphical Association.

After the collapse of negotiations - lasting 24 hours over the previous two days, there are no plans for further direct contacts between the parties and the paper is not expected to appear before next week.

Mr George Jarman, NGA national officer for Fleet Street, will today address nearly 300 members of the craft union who have been called out on official strike in support of 18 members of the machine room chapel involved in a long-running pay dispute.

Last night he blamed the company for the breakdown of talks held under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, arguing: "We were within a whisker of striking an agreement in principle that could have led to a return to work, when the company took away from us that opportunity".

The FT management in its turn blamed the union for the breakdown. "The reason for the breakdown was the NGA's insistence on a pre-condition that their rate of pay was improved from £304 a week to £322 for all members of the machine room chapel."

"Furthermore, they rejected the company's offer to negotiate on self-financing productivity to bring the matter to a conclusion. The FT seeks a solution

to the problem, and has advised the NGA that it is prepared to continue meetings at Acas, or accept that the issue is referred to a mediator or binding arbitration."

Production losses at the paper are estimated at about £800,000 after the loss of nine publication days, including today. Management is examining ways of cutting the losses but promised no action on the issuing of protective notices to other staff this week.

The impact of the FT dispute was felt at *The Guardian* yesterday, where about 50,000 copies of the paper were lost overnight because of disruption by NGA members who objected to the printing of a leading article on the general election originally destined for publication in the *Financial Times*.

In another Fleet Street dispute, members of the National Union of Journalists employed at the Press Association began a 48-hour official strike at 10pm last night, aimed at curtailing the national news agency's coverage of poll results and news.

Other NUJ chapters in Fleet Street have been asked to support the strike by "blacking" PA matter. Journalists at the *Daily Mirror* and *The Guardian* have agreed to do so; those at *The Times* voted to work normally yesterday.

Meanwhile, 53 members of the rival Institute of Journalists employed by the FA accepted the company's 7 per cent "final" pay offer.



Screen test: Young computer enthusiasts try their skills (Photograph: Jonathan Player).

## Eyes down for a full computer house

Many London school children, released from lessons because their schools were being used as polling stations, yesterday converged on the Commodore Computer Show, at the Curand International Hotel, in Hammersmith, Bill Johnson writes.

More than 15,000 visitors are expected at the three-day event, where 70 exhibitors are displaying applications for Commodore microcomputers. The exhibition is on two floors, with the first dedicated

principally to computer games and non-business use of computers. There is a "cascade" where a £5 voucher for computer software is awarded each day as a prize for the highest score on any game.

Part of the lower level and most of the upper is devoted more to the business or commercial use of these microcomputers. Today and tomorrow there is a seminar for computer experts, businessmen and other professional computer users.

But the fun is undoubtedly on the lower level. The microcomputers can be challenged at chess, at crosswords and even tested as a tutor. Ironically, the children have walked into another classroom. Many of the exhibitors specialize in using the attractions of the microcomputer.

Examples of programs designed for teaching are those for teaching the use of words, extending vocabulary, improving arithmetic and improving memory.

## Job-splitting scheme makes slow start

Only 251 job-splitting applications have been approved under the Government scheme launched in January, which has provision for at least 50,000 full-time jobs to be split, the Department of Employment said yesterday.

Employers who receive a £750 grant for each full-time job split into two part-time jobs, have complained that the one-month limit in which they have to find, interview and appoint candidates is too short. They also say the choice of applicants is restricted and could force them to recruit a lower calibre of person.

The Department of Employment in response to the time limit complaint, said it had instructed regional officers to be flexible, to use their discretion and consider each case on its merits.

The time limit was necessary to ensure that the split job was viable. If the vacancy had existed for nine months, for example, it was questionable whether the job was genuine.

The department said the

£338,500 advertising campaign promoting the scheme had some impact, with a big response from employers and job-seekers for more information.

Commenting on the relatively small number of approved applications, a spokesman said: "We appreciate it takes time for the employer to identify the kind of jobs that can be split. The scheme is voluntary, workers have an option and cannot be forced to share a job."

The department said job-splitting was only one of a number of experiments to find people a job. An immediate rush to split jobs had not been expected, but there would be a gradual build-up.

The TUC said the scheme was the Government's way of whitewashing the jobless figures. The unions believed unscrupulous employers could use it to deprive job-sharers of their employment protection rights and also qualify for a £750 grant.

## Cabinet rule ineffective, Hunt says

By Peter Heunessy

Lord Hunt of Tanworth, who as Sir John Hunt was Secretary of the Cabinet from 1973 to 1979, said yesterday that there was a hole at the heart of British Government.

In his first public speech since leaving Whitehall, Lord Hunt, chairman of Banque Nationale de Paris Ltd, told the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy in Eastbourne that Cabinets found it difficult to develop an overall strategy and were vulnerable to being blown off course.

The system of collective Cabinet decision-making, designed for a different era, had become overloaded. With so much work devolved to Cabinet committees there was a danger of delay and unsatisfactory compromise in policy-making.

They have attracted crowds to the area, which in turn have

## GLC may get extra year

## Brixton police seek to defuse tension

By a Staff Reporter

Brixton police in south London, are to meet people from the "front line", in Raiton Road, today in an attempt to reduce the tension in the area after a period when they have been claiming a distinct success in reducing crime and improving relations.

Since November, with the introduction of intensive foot patrols backed by the district support units, and with the introduction of surveillance and targeting techniques, street crime in Brixton in the form of muggings and other violent thefts dropped by a third in the first three months of the year.

The police policy has been to target muggers and to crack down on the drug trade, centred round the shebeens, licensed drinking and gaming clubs, which in themselves produce few problems but which have provided a base for drug dealers.

It is that policy which has fuelled recent resentment, with complaints that some people have been stopped four times in a day.

David Bowie, the film and rock star, is to stage a concert to raise money for Brixton Community Association may gain more than £50,000 from the concert, at the Hammersmith Odeon on June 30.

## Police pay couple £6,000 for arrest and assault

## Science report Finding an answer for toxicity of lead

By the Staff of Nature

A new explanation for the toxicity of lead has emerged, somewhat fortuitously, from the Cambridge laboratory of Dr Aaren King, last year's winner of the Nobel prize for chemistry. The proposal is that lead catalyses the destruction of molecules of RNA which are essential for the orderly synthesis of proteins in all tissues.

The evidence for that proposal comes from computer-aided approaches pursued by Mr R. S. Brown, Dr B. E. Hingerty, Dr J. C. Dewan and Dr King in the Medical Research Council's laboratory of molecular biology.

One approach was to examine the effects of lead on the structure of RNA as analysed by the technique of X-ray crystallography. Since one of King's main achievements has been to determine by X-ray crystallography the structure of the RNA that transfers individual amino acids to the site where they are assembled into proteins, it was crystals of that "transfer RNA" that he recognised they had been soaked in a solution of lead.

The result was a marked change in the way X-rays passed through the crystals, best explained as a specific break in the molecular chain of transfer RNA. Dr King and his colleagues confirmed the suggested break by chemical detection of the two broken ends of the molecular chain.

For good measure they examined the relationship of the position of the break to that of the three sites to which lead was known to bind to transfer RNA, and they were able to propose which one of the three was involved and exactly how and why it catalysed the break.

Although there are obvious dangers in drawing conclusions about the mechanisms of toxicity of lead in the body from studies of crystals soaked in concentrated lead solutions (at 4°C for a week), Dr King believes it is just likely that lead acts by binding to and catalysing the destruction of RNA molecules as that it acts by binding to and poisoning protein molecules, a commonly held belief.

Consistent with the proposal is King's evidence that the reaction between lead and RNA crystals proceeded in the slightly alkaline conditions that characterize body fluids. Other metals which cleave RNA molecules usually do so only in far more alkaline conditions.

Scotland Yard's ceremonial office said yesterday it had agreed that the token demonstration could legally go ahead.

Source: *Nature* June 9 (vol 303, p544) 1983.  
Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

## Training for car dealers

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Austin-Rover yesterday launched the biggest programme undertaken by a British motor firm. Twelve thousand employees in its dealerships throughout the country are to be taught how to deal with increasingly critical motorists.

Announcing the scheme, which will be called "Customer Care and Courtesy", Mr Peter Johnson, Austin-Rover's director of UK operations, said that a strong product range was not sufficient for a company to survive and prosper in the motor industry.

Only building customer loyalty through good sales service would lay the foundations for long-term success. Market research had shown customers placing much more emphasis on how well they were treated by the dealer who sold them the car and serviced it.

The scheme is centred on four correspondence booklets which employees work on at home. Each booklet has an assessment sheet, which has to be completed and returned.

The three achieving the highest standard from each sale zone will go on to a national final in September.

## School for architects is planned

By David Nicholson-Lord

A £1m appeal may be launched to endow a new independent school of architecture at Bristol, after Bristol University's decision to close its school next year because of financial cutbacks.

The Bristol Society of Architects, representing about eighty practices and some 500 members, has drawn up proposals for a school which would retain links with the university and take 25 students for a two-year postgraduate diploma, compared with 150 on the five-year university course. Recognition is being sought from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Mr Stephen Macfarlane, chairman of the society's special committee, said the school would cost about a third of the university department and rely on grant aid for students. A appeal to launch the school, was launched, with £1m as the target.

Mr Macfarlane added: "Bristol has a very proud architectural tradition and we want to maintain a centre which has given an enormous amount to the community."

"The whole ethos of the profession, just like clinical medicine, suffers from being cut off from the movement of ideas

## First one-legged Army pilot to get his wings

Lieutenant Alan Wordie will today become the first one-legged army pilot in British history to get his wings when they are pinned on his chest at a passing-out parade at the Army Air Corps Centre at Middle Wallop, Hampshire.

He had been told that the chances were 100-1 against his ever flying helicopters again after he lost his right leg in a crash.

But his application to rejoin the pilots course he was on at the time of the accident was approved after a colonel went up with him on his first flight after the crash.

## Sale room Record £95,012 for gold shekel struck in AD 70

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A gold shekel proudly asserting the independence of Israel in AD 70 became the most expensive Jewish coin sold at auction when it made 320,000 Swiss francs (estimate 50,000-70,000 fr), or £95,012, in Zurich yesterday. The occasion was Sotheby's sale of Greek and Roman coins from the collection of Virgil M. Brand, the American coin collector.

The shekel was struck in "Jerusalem the Holy" during the First Revolt against the Romans (AD 66-70). It bears a chalice design on one side and a stem with three pomegranates on the other. The coins struck during the First Revolt are considered to be of fine quality.

The shekel was bought by Barakat, a Palestinian Arab dealer and collector, who has homes in Jerusalem and Beverly Hills, California.

A second First Revolt shekel dating from one year earlier, AD 69, was bought by the Bank Ltd of Zurich for 110,000 Swiss francs (estimate 35,000 to 50,000 fr), or £32,660. The morning sale totalled £430,659

## Police pay couple £6,000 for arrest and assault

## 30 sheep killed on Dartmoor

Damages of more than £6,000 have been paid by the Metropolitan Police to a Brighton couple who took proceedings against them for wrongful arrest, false imprisonment, assault and malicious prosecution.

The Metropolitan Police told *The Times* yesterday that compensation paid to Mr Andrew Gibb was £3,730.48 and to Mrs Rosemary Gibb £2,450.57.

Scotland Yard said an internal inquiry was under way and papers in the case had been referred to the Complaints Investigation Bureau.

Giving details of the case yesterday to *The Times* on the instruction of Mr and Mrs Gibb, their solicitor, Mr Arnold Stevenson, said that proceedings arose from incidents when they were walking across Leicester Square at about 2.30 am on November 16, 1979, from a premiere of the film, *The Alternative Miss World* to a reception.

Some youths were doing some "modest barracking" as they walked across the square and a line of police was on duty. Mrs Gibb, who was in the situation, went up to one of the youths, who said: "Give us a kiss". There was laughter and she walked on.

The police, who objected to Mrs Gibb's action, asked her to stop. Mr Gibb said that when he asked an officer if there was anything he could do to help he was told "push off".

## Inquest on men from Windscale

Mr John Taylor, the West Cumbria Coroner, has ordered inquests on two former workers at the Windscale nuclear power station in Cumbria, who died this week from the same rare disease.

An inquest was opened yesterday on Mr Joseph Corrie, of Fell View, Gosforth, near Whitehaven, who died from bronchial pneumonia, caused by a bone marrow disease, myelomatosis.

Earlier in the week an inquest was opened on Mr Isaac McAllister, of Mirehouse, Whitehaven, who contracted the multiple tumours symptomatic of the disease.

Mr and Mrs Gibb were taken to Bow Street police station in the cell corridor an officer asked Mr Gibb why he had punched a policeman, which he denied having done. The officer then punched him in the face, he said. Another officer, who put on gloves, punched him in the ribs.

Mrs Gibb was charged with using insulting behaviour and words whereby a breach of the peace might be occasioned. Mr Gibb was charged with assaulting a police constable and a police cadet.

The charges were later withdrawn. One of the officers who arrested Mr and Mrs Gibb was later suspended for an unrelated incident and left the force. The magistrates awarded Mr and Mrs Gibb £400 costs. Mr Stevenson said.

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# Drugs firm withdraws Debendox after £480,000 award to girl

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The controversial morning sickness drug Debendox has been withdrawn by its manufacturer. A court recently awarded 750,000 (£480,000) to an American girl aged 12 who was born with physical disabilities. The announcement that production is to stop was made yesterday by Merrell Pharmaceutical's British subsidiary, in Hounslow, Middlesex. A statement said the firm had decided with regret to cease production. The decision was difficult because Debendox was the most thoroughly tested product for the relief of nausea and vomiting during pregnancy. It has been available all over the world for more than 27 years and has been used successfully in more than 33 million pregnancies. About 100,000 prescriptions for the drug were made annually in Britain. But the decision was due to pressure in the United States, "where legal action makes it impossible for the company to continue". The company said there had been numerous clinical studies confirming a high safety record for the product. Government health and safety agencies

around the world, supported by an overwhelming majority of independent experts, agreed that the available evidence did not show a connection between Debendox and birth defects. In spite of the weight of medical and scientific data, the company maintained, unwarranted and ill-informed criticism continued to surround the drug and to create unnecessary anxiety among patients. Merrell complained that non-medical pressure, including unjustified litigation, particularly in America, was based on ill-informed opinion that lacked any scientific evidence. The company would attempt to provide supplies for the completion of current courses of treatment from stocks. This action will create a significant gap for patients through the loss of an effective drug, long valued by physicians, the firm said. "Perhaps this decision will highlight the need for society to reflect upon the factors which bring such pressures on health care." A campaign against Debendox was pursued for about five years by Mr Jack Ashley and Mr David Ennals, two MPs who

argued in the Commons for a ban. The drug was available without prescription until 1978 and it was first granted a product licence in the United Kingdom in 1972. The Committee on Safety of Medicines considered the possible harm to unborn babies of antihistamines, and especially those such as Debendox, five years ago. Sir George Young, who was then the chairman, said research had not established any causal relationship between the drug and congenital abnormalities. Nevertheless, as a precaution the committee advised that antihistamine products which carried indications for use in pregnancy should be available only on prescription. Debendox also became a legally prescribed-only medicine because it contained diphenhydramine. The first American case in which an award was made against the manufacturer was in March, 1980, when \$20,000 was awarded to cover the medical expenses of a handicapped child, compared with the \$12m of compensation the plaintiffs had sought.

# Fingerprint appeal to find killer

Police hope to fingerprint more than 800 people in The Slade, a part of Tonbridge, in Kent, between June 20 and July 2 in an attempt to find the killer of a spinster aged 83 last December.

Miss Esme Hoed was found dead in her home in Havelock Road after being battered about the head. Theft appeared to have been the motive for what police described as a "horrendous" attack.

The killer, or killers, left few clues, apart from fingerprints, and the footprint of a "Banana" boot, a type popular among teenagers.

Police hope that even if those responsible do not come forward to be fingerprinted they will make themselves conspicuous by their absence.

# Third 'drying out' centre

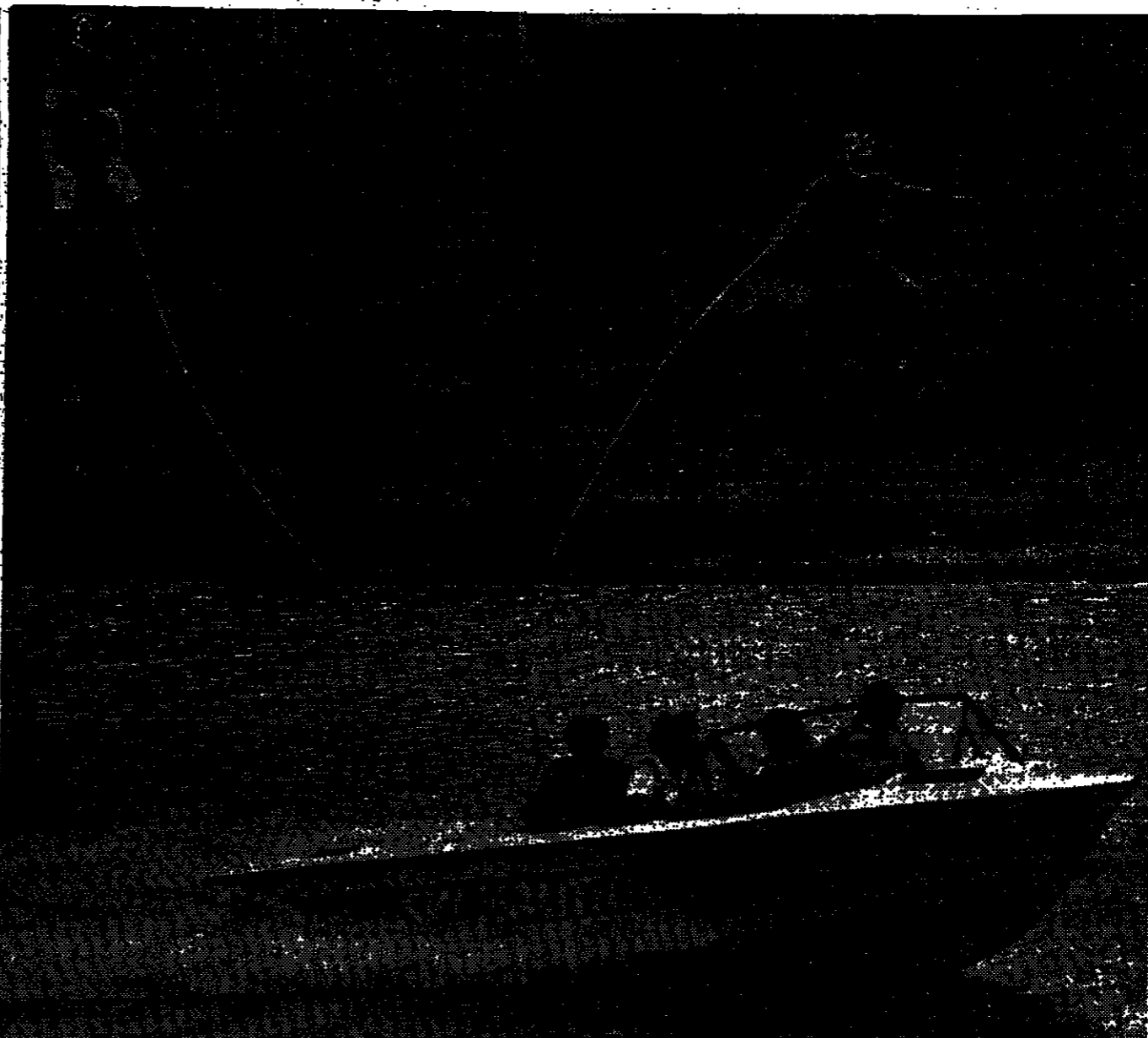
Twelve years after a government working party called for the setting up of special "drying out" centres for people arrested for public drunkenness as an alternative to police custody, plans have been made to open the third such centre, in Southampton. But a decision on funding the centre still has to be made on Wednesday.

An official of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said yesterday that it was deplorable that so little had been done.

# Blind travellers in coach crash

A coach carrying 40 people, 20 of them blind, crashed on the M5 yesterday 10 miles from the spot where a teacher died and 20 school children were badly injured on Monday.

Yesterday's accident happened when a tyre on a coach burst and it collided with the central reservation barriers at Sownton, near Exeter. None of the passengers was injured. Two lanes of the motorway were blocked for two hours.



Double act: Australia's Glen Thurlow (left) and Britain's Mike Hazelwood practising for the KP Masters International Water-Skiing Tournament at Therpe Park, Chertsey, Surrey, yesterday. Hazelwood, who has won the tournament five times, holds a world record with a 197 ft jump and will be trying to beat the 202.6 ft jumped by Thurlow in March, yet to be ratified as a record. The competition takes place tomorrow and on Sunday. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

# Listeners want less news on radio

By Kenneth Goaling

Hundreds of radio listeners have written to a new consumer group saying they want less news and much more mixed programming. The Voice of the Listener was founded last April by a small group of people concerned with that they regarded as disturbing points that arose from programmes and press coverage about the BBC discussion document *Broadcasting in the Nineties*. They feared BBC managers wanted to introduce more news and current affairs coverage, particularly on Radio 4. Mrs Jocelyn Hay, a freelance broadcaster, has dealt with more than 400 letters. "From a limited launch the response has been overwhelming," she said. "The main message that has come from absolutely everybody is that they do not want more news, particularly on Radio 4."

The interesting point is that there is this power struggle all the time in the BBC between the arts and journalism sides; and what I have also found from the letters is that people are worried about the quality of the news they hear. They complain, and it is very repetitive throughout the day and fails to go very fully into anything. People also felt there was no consultation with listeners. "Do they write to the producer of a programme or to the director-general?" "And are they aware that the BBC's programme correspondence unit does a digest of the letters that come in, which is sent round to heads of departments? I was not aware of it." Radio gave people at home, especially the sick, the elderly and the disabled, quiet pleasure, companionship and mental stimulation, Mrs Hay said. More attention needed to be paid to the spoken word and less to music and news. People had plenty of opportunity to listen to music by going to concerts and listening to records, she said. Mrs Hay is hoping to arrange an inaugural meeting in September. In the meantime, anyone seeking information can write to The Voice of the Listener, c/o The Society of Authors, 84 Drayton Gardens, London, SW10 9SD.

# Attack by judge on custody rule

From Our Correspondent York

A judge yesterday criticized the new "youth custody" sentences which have replaced borstal for young offenders. Judge Maxwell Gosnay, in York Crown Court, sentencing two young men who admitted burglary described the new system as "ridiculous" and said it was meddling with the powers of the court. He said that Gary Bolton, aged 17, and Andrew Musgrave, aged 20 were lucky to have escaped immediate custody. The court was told that a third youth who joined them on the raid at a public house near Giberdyke, Humberstone, had admitted his part in the offence and had been given a six months' prison sentence suspended for two years. Under the new youth custody rules which came into effect last month, Bolton of 26th Avenue, and Musgrave of College Road, Hull, could no longer be given a similar sentence. The judge gave both youths a two-year conditional discharge and warned Musgrave that if he committed an offence after his twenty-first birthday the new rules would no longer save him from custody.

# Farmers 'must act' to avert crop epidemics

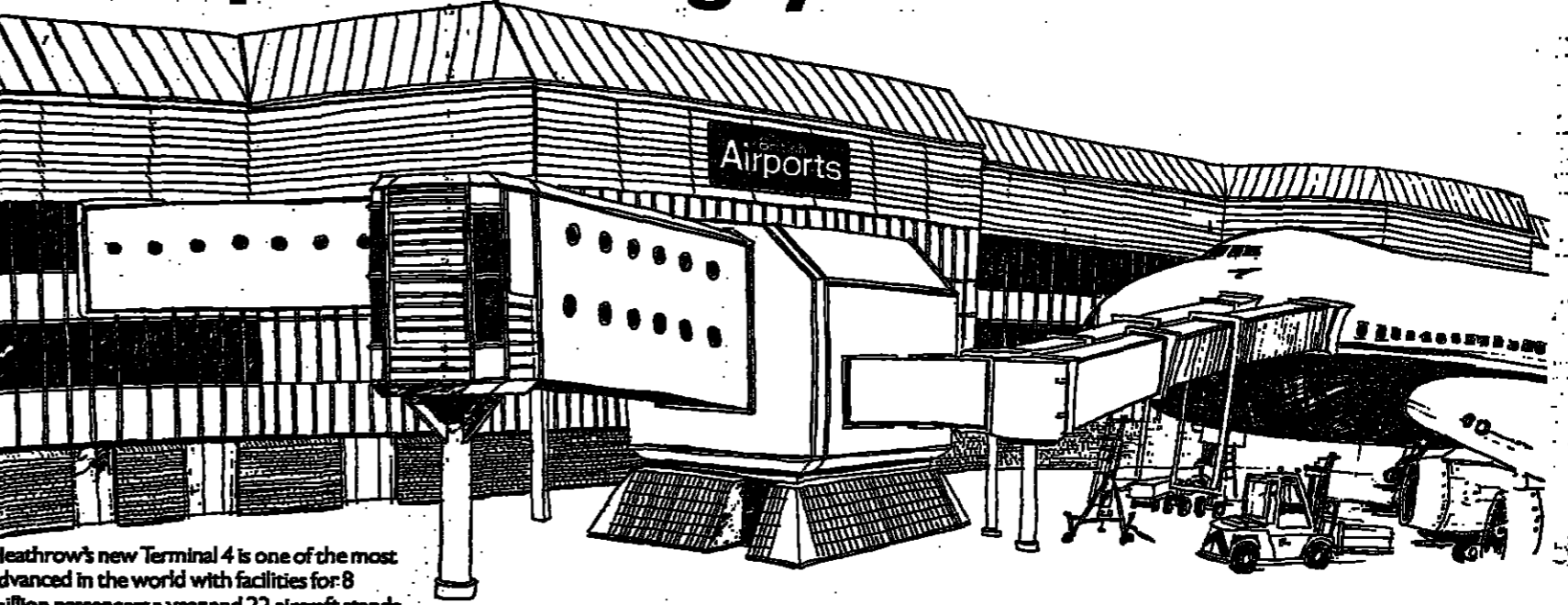
Farmers have been warned by the Ministry of Agriculture to take immediate action to prevent potentially ruinous spread of crop diseases. Our Agriculture Agricultural Correspondent writes. The next three weeks are critical, according to the

Ministry's Agricultural Development and Advisory Service. Mildew is increasingly prevalent in winter wheat and barley, and yellow rust and septoria are also causing concern. Spraying is advised against rhynchosporium and mildew in

spring barley and against alternaria and botrytis in oilseed rape. Potato and tomato growers, whose plants have in many areas been severely damaged by heavy rain and hail storms, have also been warned to watch for diseases. Stem and

leaf blight have been confirmed in potato stores. There have been several warnings that, after the cold, wet weather in April and May, a prolonged warm spell, particularly if accompanied by further rain, would create ideal conditions for epidemics.

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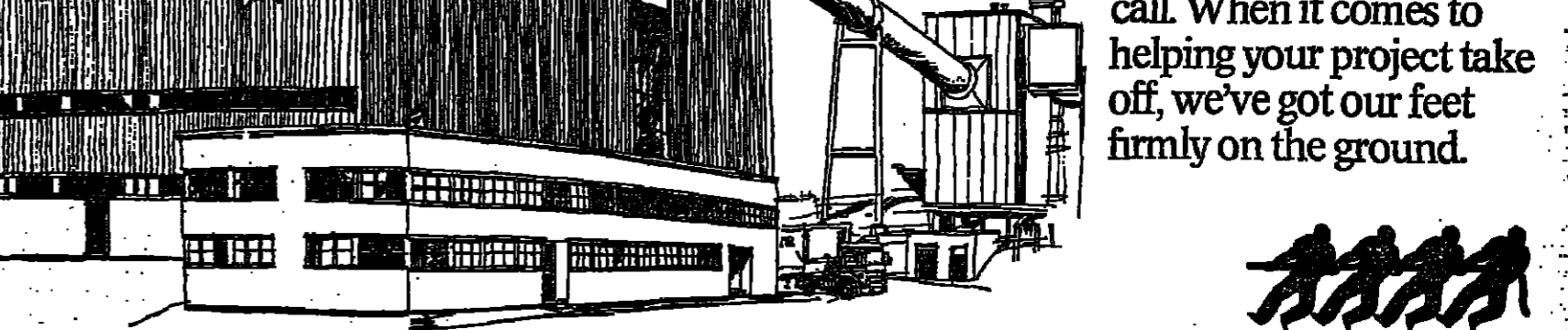
Heathrow's new Terminal 4 is one of the most advanced in the world with facilities for 8 million passengers a year and 22 aircraft stands (8 of which will accept the next generation of "stretched jumbo" aircraft).

Terminal 4 at Heathrow Airport has been described as probably the largest management contract currently underway in the UK. By the time it is completed, more than 150 work packages valued between £50,000 and £15m will have been undertaken, at a total cost of around £200m. But thanks to a lot of hard work, it's on its way. On time. And within budget. This jumbo-sized contract was awarded to Taylor Woodrow by the British Airports Authority who conceived and designed the new Terminal to meet passenger growth into the late 1980's.

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# Death after eating almonds

A woman has died of cyanide poisoning after eating bitter almonds she had brought back from a holiday in Spain.

Police in Aberdeen said yesterday that Mrs Bel Cowie, a 42-year-old artist, died accidentally after eating almonds which she had bought in Spain three years ago. Cyanide is a natural component of bitter almond kernels.

The Procurator Fiscal's office in Aberdeen is satisfied that the death was accidental but an investigation is being carried out.

Mrs Cowie was said to have had health foods, but the bitter almonds were not a type that could be bought in Britain, according to the fiscal's office.

She was a member of the Society of Scottish Artists and recently had a one-woman exhibition at a Glasgow gallery. Mrs Cowie was found dead in bed at her home in Aberdeen last week and her funeral took place on Wednesday.

The National Poison Reference Centre at Guy's Hospital, London, said cyanide occurred naturally in the kernels of almonds and fruits like cherries, apricots and peaches. They would not say how many bitter almonds would be necessary to cause death, but it is understood to be a large number.



Farewell to force: Police-woman Maureen Martin, above, who was crippled for life by a shotgun blast, is to leave the force. WPC Martin, aged 27, has been on extended sick leave from the Northumbria force since the shooting a year ago.

Her husband, also a detective, confirmed yesterday that his wife, who is confined to a wheelchair has formally applied for medical retirement. "It would have been impossible for her to continue in the job she loved, and the only alternative would have been to work as a clerk, or something like that, which she did not want", he said.

WPC Martin has been dogged by illness since the shooting.

# No evidence yet of A level leak

Students who sat the French A-level examinations on Wednesday as police investigated claims that question papers were stolen and sold may not have to retake the test.

Mr Alan Stephenson, secretary of the London University examinations council, said he was "very hopeful" that the examination would not have to be repeated by the 5,500 candidates.

Preliminary results of an urgent inquiry by the University indicated that no leaked papers reached candidates in advance.

Investigations began after a man, who said he worked for the university, handed *The Standard* French papers and a history paper due to be taken next Thursday by 928 candidates.

He claimed that he took the papers from the university's exam centre in Bloomsbury to draw attention to the lack of security surrounding the examinations.

He said he had heard that a number of papers were missing and that they were being sold at up to £100 a time. The papers he handed in had been in sealed packages

# Sister testifies against pair in murder trial

A man accused of killing his sister's husband told another sister, Mrs Christina Jacob: "It had to be done", according to a statement said to have been made to police by Mrs Jacob and read out at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday.

Philip Huddleston, aged 25, and his sister, Mrs Janet Clarke, aged 31, have both denied the murder of Mrs Clarke's husband, Mr Harry "Badger" Clarke, aged 63, the day after their marriage in May last year.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, had alleged that they killed Mr Clarke, who had suffered 20 stab wounds, in their home at Pool Farm Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham.

Mrs Jacob, aged 28, of Pype Hayes, Birmingham, was said to have told the police in a statement that she found Mr Clarke's hood-stained body in the bedroom of the house in

Acocks Green where she and Mrs Clarke lived. In the alleged statement, read to the court by Mr Brian Escott-Cox, defending Mrs Clarke, Mrs Jacob said she had screamed after seeing the body. She had run downstairs to ask Mr Clarke what had happened, but her sister had become hysterical.

Mrs Jacob said in the brief statement that when Mr Huddleston was asked about the body, "he just turned around and said it had to be done".

Mrs Jacob told the court on Wednesday that she had overheard her brother and sister discussing two ways of killing Mr Clarke, which Mr Escott-Cox suggested was "a wicked lie" since she had not told the police.

Mrs Jacob replied: "A wicked lie against brother and sister? No, sir". The trial continues.

Time is our secret. 30 sheep on Dartmoor. Heineken. REAL IMPORTED GERMAN LAGER.

# Television losing its live audience as five million turn to videos

By Kenneth Gosling

On an average evening more than five million people watch video, and the total size of the "video" audience is 2,200,000. The figure is probably the extent of the absolute loss to the total television audience.

These and other research findings emerge from a study of video viewing in Britain commissioned by Radio Luxembourg from BRMB, the commercial radio station serving the Midlands.

The most surprising conclusion appears to be that video viewers do not go out more often than other people to public houses, clubs or the cinema on the same evening; it had been thought that most video viewing resulted from programmes recorded whilst the viewer was out.

This suggests there is relatively little pre-recording from television for late-night viewing on the same evening.

The research does not differentiate between the viewing of

recorded broadcast programmes and original video material such as films - the next step in research.

However, it does provide a profile of evening leisure from a sample of 2,113 respondents. For example, on an average evening fewer than 3 per cent go to discotheques or night clubs, only 2 per cent visit a cafe or restaurant and fewer than 10 per cent go to a public house.

Some traditional social patterns still prevail: two-thirds of public house customers are male, while cafes and restaurants attract mostly women. Evening outdoor activities remain largely the preserve of the young; half the visitors to public houses, clubs, discotheques and the cinema are in the 15 to 34 age group.

Video-viewing is marginally more popular among young people who are also more likely to watch some television on the same evening than other age groups.

When it is considered that on an "average evening" 5 million

people view video, rising over a week to 19 million, and that peak viewing occurs during the traditional television peak time, it demonstrates video's erosive effect on live television viewing.

These are the survey results in summary:

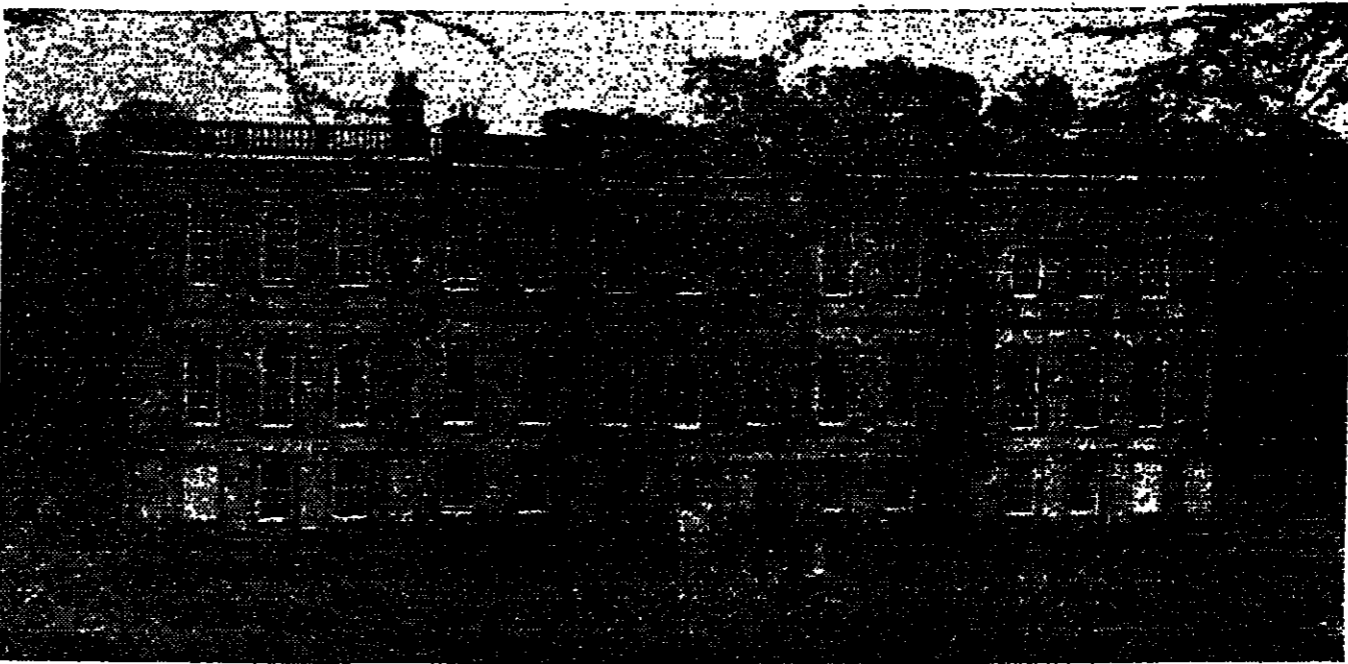
On an average night: 38.8 million people aged 10 and over watched television (79.5 per cent); 5.0 million watched video (10.3); 4.6 million visited the pub (9.4); 0.4 million visited the cinema (0.7).

Over a week, 19.3 million watched video (39.5 per cent). Length of video viewing on an average night (after 7 pm): 1 hr 38 min.

Length of television viewing on an average night: 2 hr 29 min. The video audience show a slight bias to younger people: 11.8 per cent aged 15 to 34 view on an average night; and a slight female bias: 54 per cent to 46 per cent male.

Housewives comprise 42.6 per cent of the total.

Peak video viewing corresponds exactly to the television peak, from 7 to 10 pm, with an average hour-half audience of 1.8 million. The peak half-hour was 9 to 9.30 pm, at 2.3 million.



## House that waits for a future

Calke Abbey, a mini-Chatsworth in south Derbyshire, and (below) its present owner, Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe, whose family has lived there since the early eighteenth century.

From Our Correspondent Derby

There is still uncertainty about the future of Calke Abbey in south Derbyshire, the home of the Harpur-Crewe family since the early eighteenth century, which the National Trust has declined to take over without an adequate endowment.

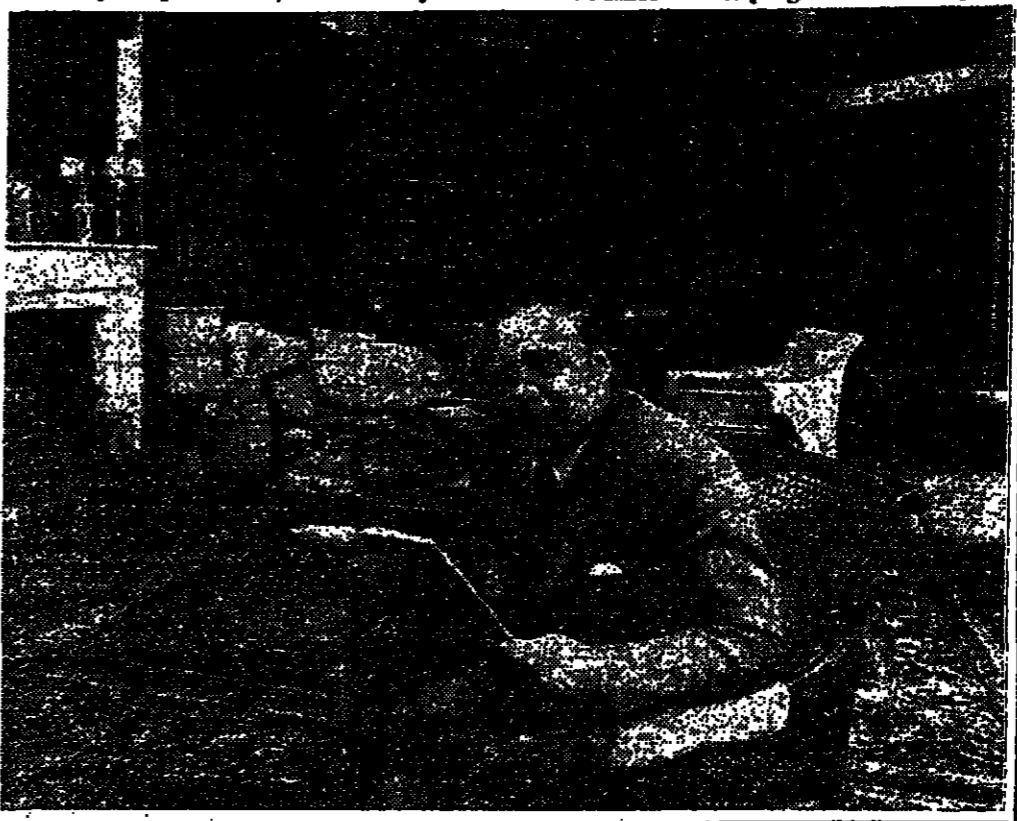
An aura of arrested time surrounds the mansion and very few people in the county have seen it unless they arrived by special invitation.

Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe, aged 62, a bachelor who is the present owner, said this week: "I am most anxious that the house should be preserved and that the estate should not be broken up. It would be a tragedy if the house had to be sold and the land then the contents, and we are still trying to find a solution."

It was unfortunate, he agreed, that the National Trust should be planning at this moment to take over Kedleston Hall, the Adam masterpiece, which is only a few miles distant in Derbyshire and which, open to the public for many years, is world renowned for its architecture, contents and grounds.

Mr Harpur-Crewe added: "The public has known about Kedleston for some considerable time, and Calke Abbey for only about a year, so the two have not exactly come at the same time."

It is understood that the death of Mr Charles Harpur-Crewe in 1981 has left a tax debt of £8m.



## Theatre fund raisers in debt

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Edinburgh Playhouse Society, set up four years ago to save the theatre from demolition, is likely to be wound up because of debts incurred during fund-raising activities for the theatre.

At present, its debts are about £56,000 to the bank, to guarantors, small traders and members of the society. This is the result of providing an orchestra pit at the theatre to enable it to house a full orchestra of 110 musicians for opera, ballet and

musicals. The £60,000 cost was to be raised by a lottery, but the lottery failed and was wound up in April.

Mr David Maxwell, chairman of the society, said that the lottery had raised a little money towards the cost of the work, but "lotteries are now out of fashion and we could not get the money we wanted."

His concern now is for the traders and members of the society who are owed small

amounts of money "but can least afford them".

On behalf of the society he has been trying to recover some of the money from the local authority involved, but the complications surrounding the theatre's ownership have made it difficult, and so far the claims have been rejected.

Edinburgh City Council which took the theatre over in April, has agreed its sale to a group of businessmen for £420,000.

## Poachers' hauls exceed legal catches

By David Nicholson Lord

Poachers may be outbidding licensed anglers along stretches of trout and salmon rivers in Wales and the West Country, according to the latest water authority estimates. Bailiffs attempting to combat depletion of legal catches, in some cases more than 50 per cent, believe unemployment is the factor behind the increase in organised poaching. Rivers close to the Midlands, an area that is badly affected by the recession, have registered the sharpest drops.

Only 2,200 salmon were caught legally last season in the River Wye, compared with 5,700 in 1981, according to figures from the Welsh Water Authority. The salmon catch in the Usk is down by almost half to 450.

A water authority spokesman said the size of the fall pointed to poaching as the biggest factor. "It is probable that on some stretches the illegal catch is now greater than that being caught legally," he added.

The fish caught by poachers are also more easily salable in urban areas where they can fetch up to £20 each. But the growing illegal haul, which is worrying areas dependent upon anglers for tourist earnings, has led to an increasingly complex communications war between the two sides.

While gangs equip their lookouts with citizens' band radios, the water authorities have improved their own radio communications and also introduced night-sights, with camera attachments, so that bailiffs can see and photograph poachers and provide evidence for prosecutions.

An equally gloomy picture has emerged from the West Country where, although the water authorities are clamping victories against poachers, catches from several renowned salmon rivers have sunk to their lowest point for at least 20 years.

Only 1,398 fish were caught last year in the Taw and Torridge in North Devon, a drop of more than 40 per cent on the 1981 catch and far below the recorded peak of 4,400 fish.

The authority blamed netting in the salmon grounds off the Scottish coast and Greenland as well as poaching but said joint training between police and water bailiffs and tougher penalties from magistrates were "having an effect against the poachers."

## Energetic start to retirement

A senior health service consultant is planning an energetic start to his retirement by training for the fifth World Veteran Games to be held in Puerto Rico in September. Mr Spencer Trafford, from North Staffordshire, will be joining the British Over-60s team to compete in six events, including the pentathlon. He has a lifelong interest in athletics and holds the British pentathlon and decathlon records for the 55/59 age group as well as the Northern Veterans' shot, discus, and javelin titles.

In 1974 he won five silver medals in the 50/55 age group in the Veterans' Commonwealth Games in New Zealand and he competed for Great Britain in the first World Veteran Games in Toronto in 1975 as well as in the third games in Germany in 1979.

Mr Trafford trained in medicine at Manchester University and in 1944 became house surgeon in charge of the infirmary casualty department and in 1965, senior general surgeon to the infirmary.

## 'No-go area' model for community policing

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

People burnt their homes to escape from the Springfield estate in Gateshead and be rehoused. Now there is a waiting list to go there.

Springfield transformation from "a virtual no-go area" is described in a report by Inspector John Marshall. It is to be used as a guide to community policing in the Northumbrian area.

The key to it is the realization that the police cannot by themselves enforce the law. The lesson of Springfield is that demoralized estates with a reputation for toughness need cooperation between police and other authorities, all working with the community.

Vandalism, accumulated rubbish and boarded-up shops marred the area and there was hostility towards any form of authority, Inspector Marshall said. The number of burnt homes is not known but the inspector believes there were enough to indicate a trend. Police cars left on the streets were in danger of having their windows broken.

Then in 1980 the local


directors of housing and social services and the Gateshead Comprehensive Community Programme received financial backing from the Department of the Environment to send in a team to work on the estate and win the confidence of its 5,000 residents.

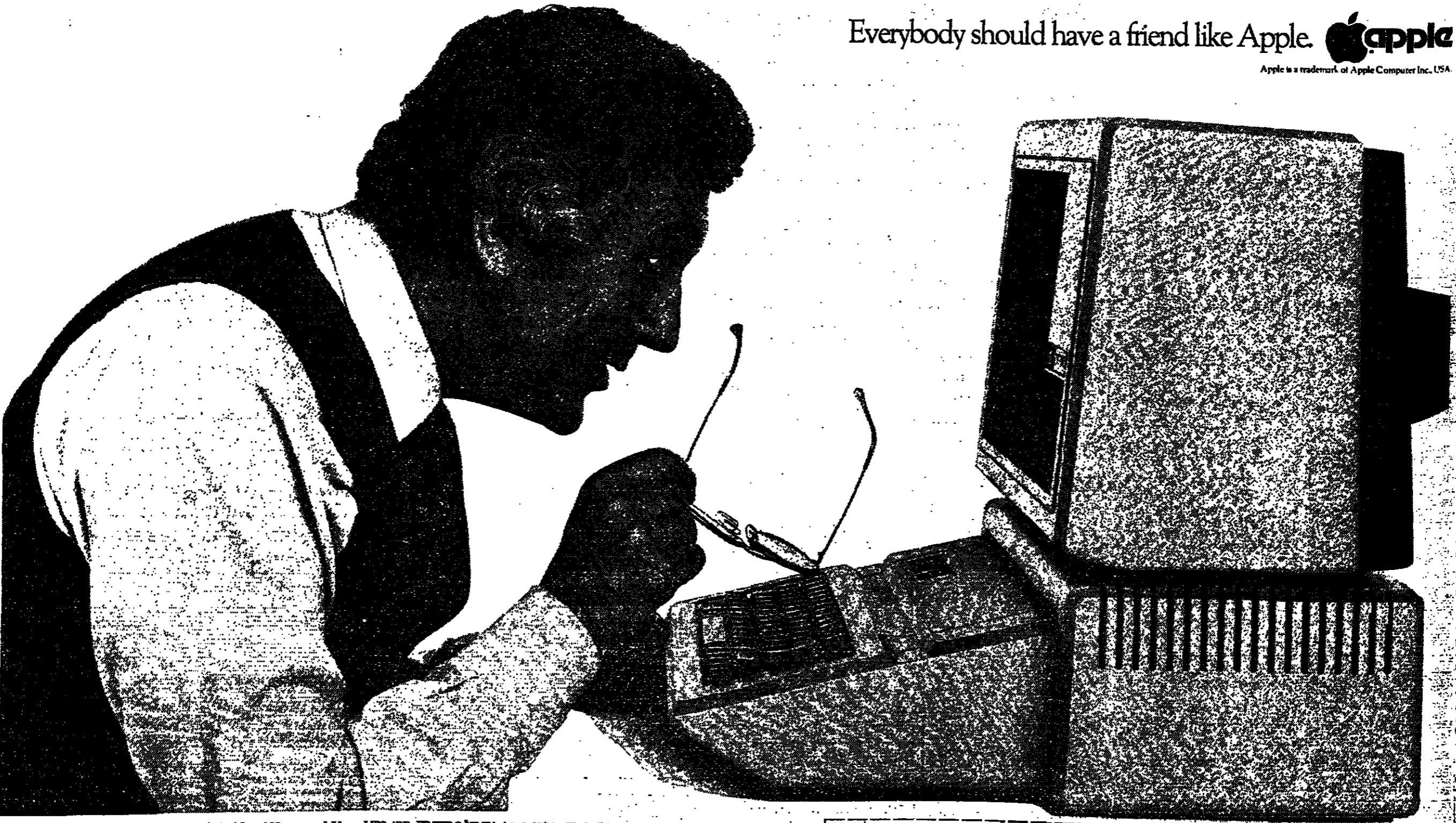
The team has helped to form groups for unemployed youths, toddlers, keep fit enthusiasts, and pensioners. A tenants' association was started and a village hall has been built. The probation service sent in young offenders on community service to improve gardens and help to decorate homes.

The hidden problems suddenly came into the open. Housing complaints increased by 31.1 per cent because people felt that something might be done about them. Reported crime rose by 230 per cent, to a peak of 153, in the six months before police joined the project two years ago. The figure is now 94. Before the local authority team began work there was a detection rate of 48 per cent. The latest figure is 58 per cent.

Patrick: "What if I give the project the OK next month?"  
Apple: "No problem. It's a 26 week schedule, so you can commit any-time within the next 9 weeks."  
Patrick: "What are the implications for capital outlay?"  
Apple: "Don't you talk to your Apple at home? I told it days ago that

major contracts aren't commissioned until week 16"  
Patrick: "That helps cash flow. And if things go well, what do you think of the Japanese market in the Autumn?"  
Apple: "Ah, so: you mean: if exchange rates go down, how long before working holiday in land of Rising Sun?"

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# Churchyard ban on kitsch ornaments distresses bereaved, masons claim

By David Nicholson-Lord

A drive against kitsch ornamentation in churchyards is causing distress to many bereaved families and forcing them to choose cremation rather than burial, it was claimed yesterday.

Plastic flowers and hearse-shaped headstones are two types of decoration that have alienated the Church of England authorities this year. Diocesan authorities have also proclaimed white marble, wooden crosses and a growing selection of intricate stone etchings and carvings to be aesthetically beyond the pale.

The high cultural line adopted by the church has prompted countermeasures by master masons, whose numbers have fallen by a third since the war and who fear their livelihood is increasingly threatened. That, in turn, they say, poses dangers for the long-term maintenance of the stone fabric of churches.

Mr John Snowdon, national executive officer of the National Association of Master Masons, described some of the rules being imposed by churches and local authorities as severe and unacceptable.

He added: "Each of the 43 individual dioceses has its own individual rules and regulations and each has to be contested individually. I have seen the length and breadth of the United Kingdom learning of

these restrictions and contesting them as and when I can."

Mr Snowdon said the association was trying to secure more flexibility and freedom of choice for the bereaved in the face of proliferating restrictions.

He said: "There are many many disgruntled people who cannot commemorate in the way they wish. When the church authorities say the rules do not permit a certain type of memorial they are adding to the distress of an already distressed person."

Families did not want the trouble and expense of challenging the rules and were forced to accept second best, he said. The replacement of burials by cremations, now accounting for two-thirds of funerals, meant more stonemasons going out of business.

"If the craft disappears, what is going to happen to the churches and buildings? Who is going to repair them?" Recent disputes have occurred at Chelmsford and Chester, in Bedfordshire, where a council went to court to prevent a widow leaving wreaths at a cemetery, and in Norfolk, where plastic flowers were removed from a grave.

According to some dioceses, marble is frowned on because it clashes with the sombre hues of a millow graveyard. But many municipal cemeteries, mainly grassed over, discourage kerbs

around graves to make maintenance easier.

Disagreements seem likely to grow, however. Mr Snowdon said that commemorating a parent or partner with a memorial reflecting his life or job (a hammer and anvil for a blacksmith, for example) was increasingly popular. But that, too, tended to conflict with ecclesiastical standards.

Mr David Williams, deputy general secretary of the Council for the Care of Churches, which has issued guidelines for dioceses, acknowledged yesterday that some diocesan authorities took an "excessively restrictive" line and clergy sometimes handled bereaved relatives brusquely.

But, he added: "You have got to have regulations and rules. The churchyard is an extremely important place not just because it contains an historic building, but as a habitat for trees and plants, rare mosses and lichens."

Among the decorations ruled out by the Churchyards Handbook are figure stannary, open books, polished granite of white marble, plastic, railings, stone chippings and bird baths.

But Mr Williams said the council supported the call by the Rev Christopher Marshall, vicar of Wiveliscombe, Somerset, for a campaign of real tombsstones to bring back more individual craftsmanship.

# Airline competition Singapore takes on a tough world

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

That demure smile on the face of Singapore Girl may soon turn to tears if the "Big Brothers" of world aviation - Britain, Germany, the United States - go using strong-arm tactics to stifle the growth of her airline.

Amazingly, for an offshore island the size of the Isle of Wight with a population of only 2,500,000, Singapore Airlines (SIA) has been the world's fastest growing airline in recent years, and is now ranked "fourteenth among world airlines."

That growth has been built on a superb geographical position at a cross-roads in the Asia-Pacific region, strong support from a tough entrepreneurial government, an efficient fleet and organization, the most seductive advertisement in the business featuring Singapore Girl, and on-board service generally held to live up to its promises.

Growth has been achieved only by treading on other people's toes, and not surprisingly they object. One by one Australia, Germany and the US by fair means or foul (in Germany it came to physical harassment of SIA passengers by the federal aviation authorities have tried at the behest of their national carriers to block SIA's attempts to increase market share.

SIA is pressing on regardless. Singapore Girl is helping to win the best load factors in the business, around 75 per cent according to a recent

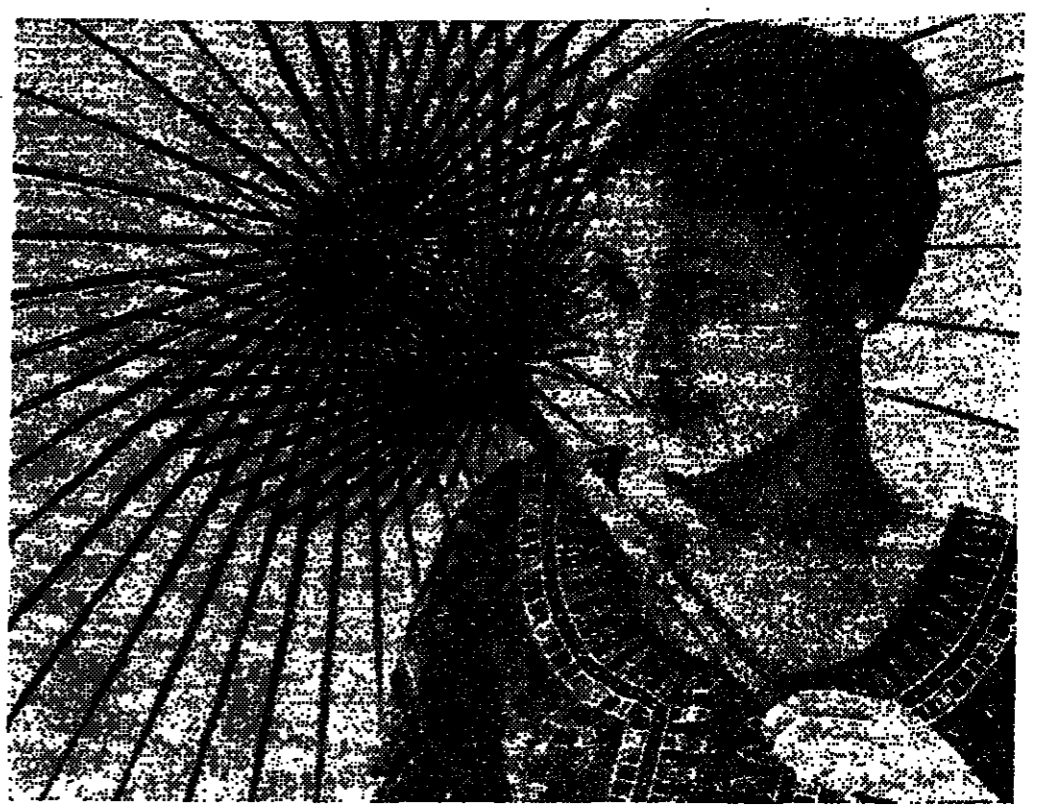
survey, compared with 65 per cent at Swissair, 63 per cent at British Airways, and 61 per cent at PanAm. That justifies enhanced traffic rights in Singapore's eyes.

This month it took delivery of the first of eight stretched-upper-deck Boeing 747s bought at a cost of \$500m that will increase the airline's capacity by a quarter over the next three years and step up the pressure, especially on trans-Pacific routes.

Lacking the clout of a big trading nation with a substantial domestic market only a quarter of its traffic originates from Singapore while half British Airways' traffic originates from Britain SIA is reduced to plaintive cries about the virtues of free enterprise in a protectionist world and blazoning forth the huge orders it regularly places with work-starved Western aircraft manufacturers.

This month it added another \$1,430m to the total: \$420m for six European Airbus A310s, and \$1,010m for six more Boeing 747s and four 757s. But as recession bites deep into the coffers of established state airlines nobody wants to listen.

SIA's application for increased rights across the Pacific to California has been hanging fire for months with the US Civil Aeronautics Board. PanAm, one of the airlines that stands to lose traffic if SIA's application is granted, has urged the board



The seductive Singapore style

to refuse rights to "an exceptionally aggressive and well-financed national airline that can only work against long-term US interests."

In Britain, SIA is threatening legal action to secure what it regards as its rights under the bilateral agreement to increase flights via Hongkong across the Pacific.

Britain, which acts for Hongkong in such matters, is holding back, apparently to protect the British/Hongkong carrier, Cathay Pacific, which ironically has a similar philosophy and track record (though at a more cautious pace) to SIA's.

Little wonder, in a world of growing protectionism among

the developed as well as the developing countries, SIA complained in its last annual report that "the very missionaries who once came singing the praises of free enterprise to sell their sophisticated products to the unsophisticated East, are today crying 'foul'. This gives credence to the view that people live by the rules that suit them."

That no doubt is true, but it is also true of SIA. If it succeeds in establishing itself as a top world airline operating from a high-cost economy, perhaps like many before it will want to pull up the ladder once it has clambered on board.

to join the world's top airline and keep Singapore Girl smiling? Its strength lies in being an efficient and well-marketed airline operating out of the world's leading growth area, where economic expansion and tourist attraction should help to keep aircraft full.

Its main weakness is the poor bargaining power of a small player in a big-league world ruled increasingly by national interest rather than free trade. And while antagonizing the passenger. While adept at unloading "spare capacity" through "bucket shops", it makes no pretence of being a cut-price airline on Laker lines.

# Gas meter cashcard may replace coins

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The use of electronic cashcards in place of coins for meters is being considered by several electricity and gas boards, partly to combat theft.

The cards, similar to those available in some telephone kiosks, would be available to purchase electricity or gas up to the value of, say, £5.

Other systems being examined would not only allow remote controlled meter reading but have the potential to debit bank accounts automatically.

Victims of coin-meter thefts not only have to repay the money lost, often as much as £200, but may be charged for criminal damage to the meters, according to a report of the National Association of Victims' Support Schemes (NAVSS). The cost of replacing a gas meter may total £60, and up to £100 for an electricity meter.

The National Gas Consumers' Council reported 4,275 thefts from meters in 10 months in South-east London. There are more than three million households with gas and electricity prepayment meters. Between 3 and 3 per cent of slot meter users suffer break-ins each year, according to a NAVSS monitoring group.

A report by the group accuses fuel boards of relinquishing their responsibilities, and says: "Everyone gasps at the idea of people keeping over £100 cash in the house in the age of the

bank account, but the fuel boards are forcing people, not only to keep such amounts, but to keep them in highly insecure cash boxes."

Prepayment meters are often compulsory as boards prefer to ensure that debts are repaid when consumers fall into arrears.

Victims' support schemes in urban areas have "huge" numbers of thefts referred to them annually by police, though the names of householders suspected of breaking into their own meters are not passed on. Fuel meters are a regular target for house burglars looking for an easy source of cash. The York scheme, for example, handled 268 cases of meter theft last year.

In Sheffield, the victims' support scheme sought to help a widow, aged 60, after burglars stole her electricity meter and its £40 contents. Miss Lynne Irving, the scheme's organizer, said the Yorkshire Electricity Board wanted £100.35 for the replacement of the meter, plus the £40, a sum equivalent to more than four times the woman's weekly pension.

After an appeal, the board agreed that she could pay off the debt in weekly instalments, but at a rate beyond her means. She managed to obtain a grant as a widow from an ex-serviceman's organization to pay off part of the debt but had to find £60 herself.

# Cheap shirts as good as expensive ones

By a Staff Reporter

The well dressed man-about-town might as well buy his shirts from a chainstore as from an expensive West End haberdashery, according to the latest *Which?* magazine. Not even the experts can tell the difference.

The best buy in shirts is deemed to be from British Home Stores and costs £5.99. The magazine, which tested 32 shirts ranging in price from £4.50 to £22.50, says the most expensive, and all-cotton model from Aquascutum, did rather badly in resistance to rubbing and creasing.

*Which?* ran a series of laboratory tests on the shirts, mainly cotton or a cotton and polyester mixture, to assess cloth quality, strength, durability and tailoring. It assembled a panel of experts and amateurs to assess the looks.

It commented: "When it came to judging the shirts on the model there was considerable confusion: cheaper shirts scored just as highly as the most expensive ones on such things as general looks and style, fit and neatness of collar, sleeve length, drape."

"Nor could the panel (even the experts) pick out which were the cheap shirts when asked to guess the price of each. In fact the two middle-priced shirts (£9 and £14) were marked down by the panel for both looks and price."

The moral, the magazine says, is clear: "Nobody, not even the expert, can with certainty distinguish a cheap shirt from an expensive one while it is being worn. And closer examination cannot guarantee to reveal the true cost."

The test, it reports, found several chain store shirts at about £5 or £6 which compared well with others twice the price. Also listed as good value, from £6.99 to £9.95, are shirts marketed by Alexander, Burton, Double Two, Peter

England, Tootal and Van Hensen.

In its survey, published yesterday, the magazine comments that cotton shirts, although more comfortable to some, do not in general survive as well as polyester-cottons and may suffer from more creasing.

Householders experiencing problems from subsidence or damaged drains should seek expert advice instead of blaming the nearest tree and reaching immediately for the axe, the magazine says. Trees are often wrongly accused of causing the damage.

Trees are blamed for subsidence because their roots accelerate the drying-out process in summer. Clay, found mainly in London and the South-east, expands in winter when wet and dries in summer, causing movement which some older houses were not designed to withstand.

But householders with sudden cracks in their walls "certainly should not rush out and chop down the nearest tree", the magazine comments. This could lead to heave - the reverse of subsidence - because the soil would grow wetter, swell and push up the foundations.

Another "crime" often pinned on trees, it adds, is damage to underground drains, when roots grow into them and block the flow. In some cases the tree is only exploiting an existing crack or loose joint although in others its roots may have caused the crack by growing under the pipes.

Chopping down the tree, says *Which?*, is no substitute for digging out the pipe and repairing it. Advice can be obtained from bodies like the Arboricultural Association on surgery or planting, but in general the larger forest-type trees have the reputation for causing trouble and should be avoided.

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### Museums to stand on reclaimed colliery tip

From Our Correspondent Derby

A museum complex is being developed on a 60-acre reclaimed colliery tip at Butterley, between Ripley and Alfreton in Derbyshire.

The Midland Railway Trust has a 99-year lease on the site from Derbyshire County Council. The trust was formed from a support group founded 13 years ago to aid Derby Museum, which intended to create a working and static museum to commemorate the Midland and LM & S railways, which had their headquarters there.

That proved impossible after 1974 when Derby lost county borough status and failed to secure joint development agreement with the county council.

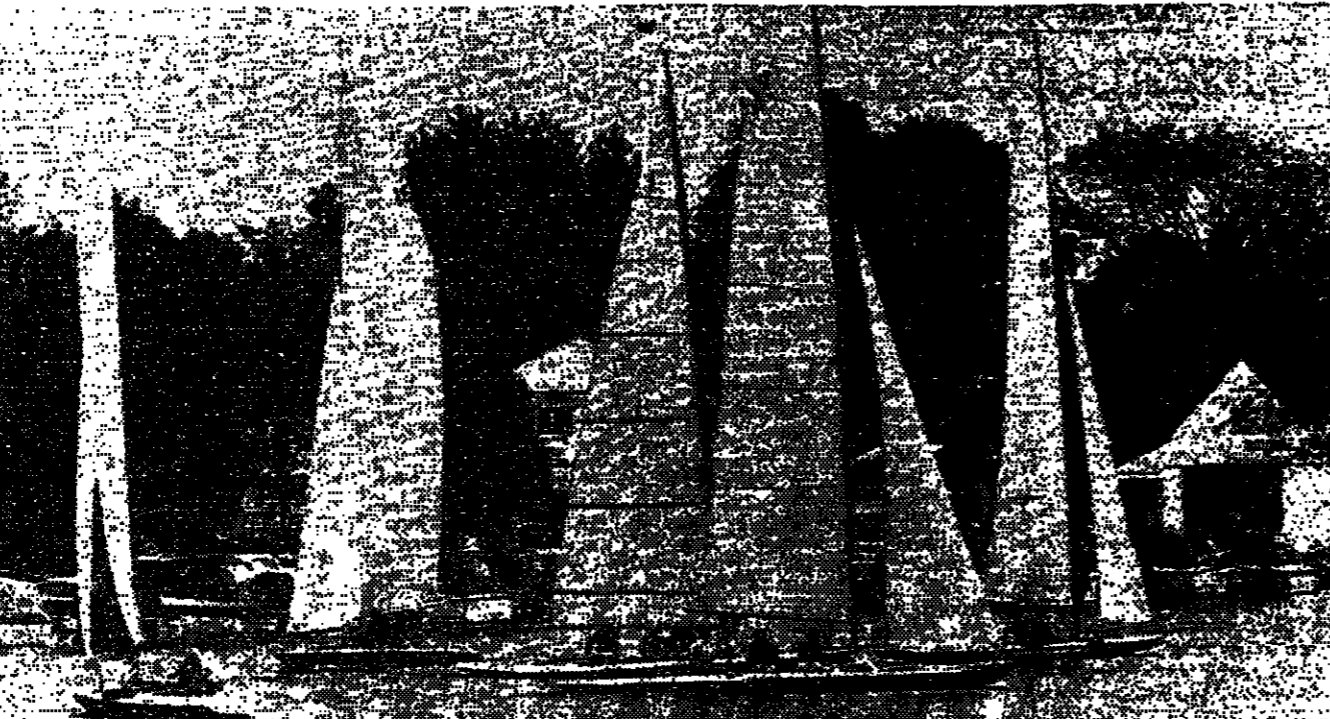
The support group became a trust, took the scheme forward and obtained Department of Environment approval for passenger-carrying over the 3½-mile line that runs through attractive countryside by the museum site, where a 42,000 sq ft museum building is being erected for static exhibits.

Planning consent has been obtained for a road transport museum and now a specialist society has been formed to construct a mining museum. The founder and chairman of the trust, Mr John Twells, said: "This latest development will lead to a trinity of related museums on one site, which will be of national importance. Progress is slowed by a shortage of development capital, but with voluntary help from several societies, Manpower Services Commission assistance and the income from 50,000 visitors in our first year of operation we are turning an area of industrial dereliction into an educational and environmental asset."

### Transplant man leaves hospital

Mr Roy Price, who received a new heart last week in a transplant operation at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, has left the hospital for a flat near by where his wife has been staying.

Mr Price, aged 52, an electrician from Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, may be allowed to return home in two weeks if he continues to make good progress. His new heart was flown from Vienna.



Canvassing the other sort of floating voter: Class A raters of the Upper Thames Sailing Club at the start of one of the Bourne End Week events yesterday (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

### Former British Airways chief attacks airline's management

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

If Mrs Margaret Thatcher had known the mess British Airways was in in 1980 she might have hesitated about appointing Sir John King and going for privatization, a former top BA manager and Department of Trade official has said this week.

In a scathing attack on BA chairmen and management, and on the policy of successive governments towards the airline, Mr Richard Graham, former senior economic adviser at the Department and a senior manager at BA in the 1970s, says the merging of BOAC and BEA now flared into open war, the separate groupings remained within the merged company, and learnt to "manipulate it" and to use it to hide reality from the Government.

Industrial warfare broke out, operational performance worsened, and by 1977 the airline was virtually being run by the personnel department which was not qualified to do so. Sir David left early, to be replaced by the "bizarre appointment" of Sir Frank McFadzean, now Lord McFadzean of Kelvinside, a "right wing oil magnate who knew nothing about airlines", and who was told by a socialist prime minister, Sir Harold Wilson, to "get in and sort out the mess". This he did through a huge reorganization which "simply crushed together" the former managements.

Things got worse, and "the Department of Trade and its ministers could only watch as British Airways nosed into financial disaster". Airline standards slumped.

Then, in 1979, McFadzean too left early and, for the first time, a lifelong airline man was made chairman. Sir Ross Stainton was "charming, knowledgeable but an ineffectual leader at the dusk of his career".

A new policy of growth had been embarked on to grow out of the airline's overmanning through predatory pricing. It was doomed from the start, because growth in the industry was already disappearing, and with both a recession and a sick airline, it was "like trying to take off seriously overweight with flat tyres in a blizzard".

Sir John King was appointed in 1981 "with a clear objective, a new experience for British Airways". But he had no experience of airlines.

"The result was the silliest in a long line of reorganizations. Mr Graham says, with "nearly all the wrong people - the young, skilled and able" leaving under huge redundancy schemes.

### Challenge to TV set licensing

By Kenneth Gosling

When is a television set not a television set? The answer might be when it is used only for showing commercially produced tapes or for playing games.

But you would be well advised to let the Television Licence Records Office at Bristol know that you have no intention of receiving broadcast programmes or you could become one of the 70,000 people a year prosecuted for having no licence.

The question has arisen after a man accused at Malvern of having no receiver's licence explained that he uses his set only for video films. The magistrates have put the case back for six weeks for the man to appear, and for the legal position to be clarified.

It is not the first time someone has challenged the authorities over the use of a television set claimed to be unlicensed; the records office believes the practice of people using sets solely for games and cassettes is increasing.

However, putting on cassettes of programmes recorded from BBC or independent television would render a viewer without a licence liable to prosecution.

So far there are no statistics on how many viewers have declared themselves independent of the networks.

### The cut and thrust of a 'cut and run' election

The following are quotations from the general election campaign:

May 10 - Michael Foot: Here we are in a cut-and-run election a year before this Parliament needs to be dissolved. If recovery is on the way why the rush?

Margaret Thatcher: You are bound to be accused of something. If you go between four and five years, you are cutting and running. If you don't decide you are dithering. If you continue to go the whole year you are clinging to office.

May 11 - Kenneth Livingstone: I think it's a tragedy that the executive have decided to impose a candidate on the local party when of the three wards I have already met, I have been the choice of all three.

Francis Pym: We may well wish that Clem Attlee or Hugh Gaitskell led the Labour Party today, instead we have a dreamer, a man who would throw away everything that postwar governments of both parties have sought to build.

May 13 - Denis Healey: I never believe in opinion polls.

Roy Hattersley: I wonder, Sir Robin, since we are talking about the manifesto, if I could persuade you to talk about the 90 per cent with which I agree, or is it dissent you are looking for?

May 15 - Sir John Nott: The Falklands has happened and it was a success, but I would not want it to figure in the general election campaign.

Conservative Election Advertisements: Labour say he's black. Tories say he's British.

Michael Foot: This same Conservative Party which tries to lecture us - do you know who was their Munich candidate in 1938, in effect licking Hitler's jackboots after he had trampled on Czechoslovakia? It was the Munich man Lord Hailsham, who is still in this Government now.

Lord Hailsham: The poor old boy has plainly lost his marbles. Poor old, dear old Worzel Gummidge. He is ranting, he is hysterical, he is running scared.

May 23 - Margaret Thatcher: Under a Labour government there is virtually nowhere you could put your savings where they would be safe from the State. Put your savings in your socks and they would nationalize socks.

Francis Pym: Suggestions that we should go back to negotiating with Argentina as if nothing had happened are totally unrealistic.

Roy Hattersley: Recession is when someone else loses their job, slump is when you lose your own job - and recovery is when Mrs Thatcher loses her job.

May 25 - James Callaghan: Our refusal to give up arms unilaterally has brought better and more realistic proposals from the Soviet Union. Britain and the West should not dismantle these weapons for nothing in return.

Denis Healey: No leader and deputy leader ever walked more closely than Michael Foot and I, Margaret Thatcher: I want a very big majority. The Labour manifesto is the most extreme ever and it deserves a very big defeat.

May 26 - James Prior: You cannot tell the people the whole time that they must take the medicine, unless you actually tell them that the medicine is going to result in something better for them afterwards.



Shirley MacLaine: Adding spice to a dull election.

May 27 - Wedgwood Benn: People are frightened for their jobs, frightened the Russians will come tomorrow and frightened of being shot by the Chief Constable if you survive a nuclear war.

May 30 - David Steel: Conservatives with a social conscience are the villains in Mr Thatcher's mind.

Enoch Powell: For us to us (nuclear weapons) would be its equivalent to more than suicide. It would be genocide - the extinction of our race - the most literal and precise meaning of that much-abused word.

June 1: Denis Healey: The Prime Minister who glories in slaughter...

Graffiti slogan: Vote for Maggie - retire at 16.

June 2: Margaret Thatcher (to Denis Healey): Beyond a bounds of political decency.

June 5 Sir Richard Attenborough: Gandhi would have approved of the SDP. The Alliance is the only real way the country can achieve stability.

June 6 Margaret Thatcher: The Labour Party will never die. Kenan Everett: Let's bon Russia... let's kick Michael Foot's walking stick away.

Neil Kinnock (on Mrs Thatcher's guts): It's a pity that other people had to leave their ground at Goose Green in order to prove it.

Shirley MacLaine (after chairing affair with Labour politician): It does sound like a dull British election. Maybe it has helped spice it up a little.

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# Europe's unions join forces to fight against deflation

From Ian Murray, Brussels

European trade unions have become more aware of the need to coordinate their actions to confront employers' organizations and governments over the past year, according to the European Trade Union Institute.

In its annual review of collective bargaining in Europe published yesterday, the institute says that the deflationary policies of governments and attempts to seek wage cuts have made trade unions realize the importance of working together across national frontiers, especially in areas such as working time and public investment expansion.

European countries, the institute draws attention to what it sees as the "significant" action by the British Government to weaken trade unions and undermine workers' rights. It says that the Employment Acts of 1980 and 1982 were both designed to reduce the trade unions' scope for action and to weaken the position of the individual employee.

Looking at wages, purchasing power and pay systems, the report finds that Britain is one of the only countries where wages increases in real terms were higher than the rate of inflation - and the other four countries in this category (Austria, France, Greece and Finland) all had left-of-centre governments.

Britain is also highlighted as the country where the unions are trying most through negotiations to reduce the length of the working week.

The institute was set up in 1978 by the European trade union movement to act as a research unit.

The report includes a series of tables looking at productivity and wage rates. One shows that Britain has made one of the more significant moves towards improving productivity inside the EEC.

### REAL LABOUR COST PER UNIT OF OUTPUT

	Percentage changes from previous year	
	1981	1982
Belgium	-2.2	-3.7
Britain	-0.6	-3.1
Denmark	-1.9	-1.2
France	0.9	-0.1
Greece	0.4	3.2
Ireland	-2.3	-6.4
Italy	1.9	0.5
Luxembourg	2.0	-4.9
Netherlands	-3.1	-2.0
West Germany	-1.5	-1.9
EEC	0	-1.2



Mock invasion: "New Cavalry" scouts waiting to board US Air Force transport aircraft for war games on the Caribbean island of Vieques, part of Universal Trek-83 exercises by 5,000 US troops.

## Cuba steps up civil defence ready for air attack

Havana (AFP) - Cuba's communist regime is stepping up civil defence exercises to meet what it says is a threat of armed attack by "The fascist North American Administration". Since late December, the authorities have issued repeated calls for vigilance. They have conducted emergency drills, and advised citizens on where to park their cars and how to drop to the ground in the event of an air attack.

Last weekend, the people of Havana were warned to prepare for a simulated raid this month by the Cuban Air Force or even for a real *gringo* air raid. Local organization is conducted by the Revolutionary Defence Committees (CDR), known as the "eyes and ears of the revolution". There is a CDR in every block of houses. Committee members stand guard at night, assist the police, give medical help and act as welfare workers, providing medical aid to women and education to the children. In one recent neighbourhood exercise CDR members told residents what to do if the radio gave an air raid warning: "If you are at home, get away from the windows and doors. In the street, fling yourself down with your face against the ground. The alerting of the populace has been stepped up in the last few weeks because of threatening remarks by the United States administration, which has accused Cuba of sending weapons to leftist guerrillas in El Salvador."

### US television upstaged

## British firm ahead in Kennedy stakes

From Christopher Thomas, New York

Amid the shambles, the noise and the filth of a decrepit warehouse on New York's West Side, a British television company has embarked on a multi-million dollar project that has decisively upstaged the American TV industry.

They are making a drama of President Kennedy's 1,000 days in office, embracing in seven hours of film the inauguration, the crises like Cuba and the Bay of Pigs, the womanizing - though only briefly - and the assassination on November 22, 1963.

It will be seen simultaneously on British and American television around the time of the 20th anniversary of the murder, and there is little doubt that writers and television people in the US will be miffed.

The Americans are intensely defensive of all matters cultural, which doubtless explains the occasional churlishness of the Broadway critics when something spectacular and foreign storms New York. Reg Gadeny, the author of the Kennedy epic, is decidedly English and admits: "The reviews should be extremely interesting."

Among Mr Gadeny's earlier television work is the BBC's *Forgive Our Foolish Ways* and an adaptation of Iris Murdoch's *The Bell*. A heavily illustrated book of the Kennedy presidency will accompany the broadcast.

The Middlesex-based Central independent television company is coy about the cost of the production, but the money is obviously big. Kennedy is played by Martin Sheen, currently to be seen in *Gandhi* and most recently acknowledged for starring performances in *Apocalypse Now*, and in *Badlands*.

The set - comprising the Oval Office, the Cabinet Room and the room occupied by Kennedy's secretary, Evelyn Lincoln - are exact replicas. The President's desk is a precise copy, as are the ornaments atop it.

Central television went scouting for a makeshift studio because of the high cost of renting the proper thing. They were particularly concerned because of the time it would take to construct the set in the studio - in the end it took the best part of three months.

But alas, the warehouse, perched on Pier 62, is porous to sound. Outside, an old jetty that for years has been contentedly rusting without interference is suddenly being cleared by great clanking cranes. Filming now has to take place in the afternoons and on into the late evening, when the noise abates.

Mr Gadeny has deliberately not met any of the Kennedys, although it has been whispered to him that some of them might be willing to confer. He fears that a meeting might interfere with his objectivity.

A rush of television productions is certain to accompany the commemoration of Kennedy's death, but the British version is way ahead of the pack and is without doubt the most ambitious. There are those on the set at Pier 62 who wonder whether the American TV industry is nervous about an intimate, subjective involvement with a subject so deeply ingrained in the American subconscious as the Kennedy presidency.

The coup was in selling the programme to NBC for network broadcasting in three prime-time mammoth showings - the first of three hours non-stop, then two more of two hours each. The British broadcast may go out with a similar format or, alternatively, in "one-hour programmes".

This is doubly remarkable because the US television networks hardly ever buy British TV productions about anything, let alone one about their own President. There is plenty of British TV around, but it is virtually all on the network of public television stations, which survive on a shoestring budget from private and corporate donations.

Mr Gadeny insists that the programme is "absolutely not a drama-documentary, which he hates. It is "a historic play, no more, no less."

And how does President Kennedy fare in the Gadeny interpretation? "Kennedy was made to look better than he was by a great many people - and also worse. The truth lies between the two. Kennedy was the first television President - like Roosevelt had radio and Hitler had film."

## Expulsion of graduate who angered China raises freedom fears

From Fox Butterfield

New York (NYT) - Stanford University's expulsion of a graduate student, on the basis of a secret report by faculty members who investigated his anthropological work in China, has touched off a dispute about academic freedom.

The student, Mr Steven Mosher, was dismissed from Stanford's doctoral programme by an 11-0 vote of the anthropology department last February, with no reported dissent. But the secrecy surrounding the decision, and conflicting accounts of the charges against the student, have raised questions over whether Stanford had bowed to pressure from Peking to retaliate against Mr Mosher.

Mr Mosher, aged 34, conducted research in a village near Canton in 1979 and 1980. He was one of the first American scholars allowed to work in China after normal relations between Peking and Washington were restored.

He gathered a highly unusual collection of local police and government documents that the Chinese consider secret, and he later published an article in a Taiwanese magazine that described a campaign to force many women to undergo abortions as part of China's birth control programme.

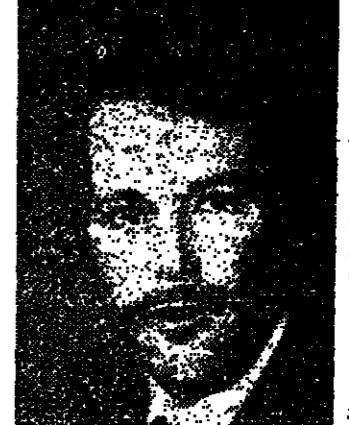
The Chinese were angered by Mr Mosher's activities, and soon after his departure, whether by coincidence or not, banned all further field research by American academics. In conversations with other American scholars, Chinese officials also began accusing Mr Mosher of a long list of offences, including spying, smuggling an immoral conduct with a woman. Several of the scholars reported the accusations to Stanford.

Stanford then set up a three-member investigating committee that reported Mr Mosher had engaged in "illegal and seriously unethical conduct in China." But the anthropology department has refused to release the 47-page committee report on which the vote to expel him was based.

In a statement this spring responding to critical letters and articles, Mr Donald Kennedy, President of Stanford, termed the dispute over Mr Mosher "one of those unfortunate cases in which we find two important social values in collision."

He said the university would like to be able to release the information to answer questions about possible infringements of academic freedom or about the operation of political influence.

But an equally strong set of values attaches to the need for privacy, he went on, saying that the information might be damaging to other people. A spokesman for the university said Mr Kennedy had not read the investigating committee's report.



Mr Mosher: Accused of spying

Although members of the anthropology department have offered differing accounts of the charges against Mr Mosher, several professors said the critical evidence had been supplied by his former wife, Maggie So, a Chinese born in Hongkong.

In the spring of 1980, after a bitter quarrel over Mr Mosher's demand for a divorce, Miss So went to the US Consulate in Canton, where she accused him of bribing local officials to obtain documents, the anthropology professors said. She complained that Mr Mosher's actions were endangering her relatives who still lived in the village, they added.

In early 1982, after the couple were divorced, she repeated her accusations to the Stanford investigating committee.

Mr Mosher denies Miss So's information as "absolutely false and unsubstantiated slander from a scorned woman who vowed to ruin me." In a telephone interview from Taiwan, where he now lives, Mr Mosher said he had been dismissed because of Chinese anger over the abortion article and pressure from American China scholars eager to please Peking.

In a book, *Broken Earth: The Rural Chinese*, to be published in September, Mr Mosher paints a portrait of apathy, corruption and poverty among China's peasants and village officials.

He also describes, as he did in the article published in Taiwan, a campaign in his village in the spring of 1980 to force abortions on pregnant women who were not permitted to have children under Peking's strict birth control rules.

In a village near by, Mr Mosher asserted, a woman seven months pregnant who had no sons had an ordered abortion and was found to have been carrying twin boys.

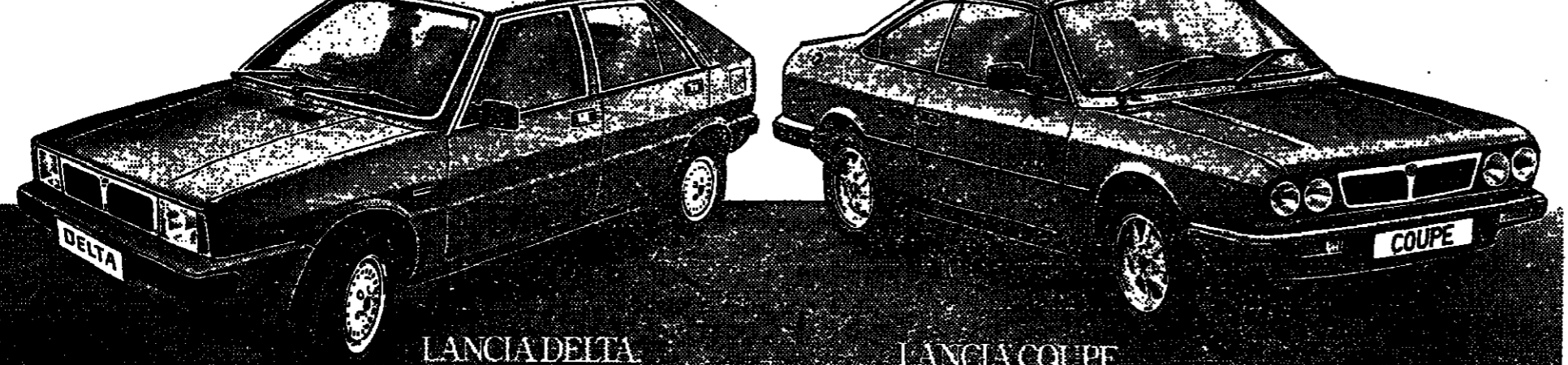
The woman's husband went in a fury to the home of the official who had ordered the abortion. Seizing the man's two sons, aged 8 and 10, he heaved them into the courtyard well and then leaped in himself. All three drowned.

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### Let's face facts.

Trafalgar have been messing about in boats for just 12 years. P&O have been running successful shipping operations for nearly one hundred and fifty.

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Given that the Falklands crisis has distorted any comparison between P&O's and Trafalgar's figures for 1982, let's look at the previous year.

In 1981 P&O's cruise liners made a profit of £6.9m. Cunard Line Limited, so far as we can ascertain from their published accounts, made a loss of £1.3m.

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A recent Gallup poll, conducted in the all-important American market, reflects this state of affairs. 84% of Travel Agents rated P&O as excellent. Only 25% could say the same for Cunard.

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Fact. P&O's management and Trafalgar's are oceans apart.

Our cruise management is based in Britain. Cunard's is based in America.

Our philosophies and ideas are totally dissimilar. P&O's cruising fleet, for example, goes to sea under a British flag. Three of Trafalgar's five ships sail under a foreign flag. The transfer of a fourth is the subject of a bill presently before U.S. Congress.

Fact. P&O's construction interests are not compatible with Trafalgar's.

Our successful subsidiary, Bovis, operates on a fee basis. Trafalgar run their business by tender. These different systems demand entirely different skills and attitudes.

Fact. P&O's banking subsidiary, TCB, does not fit into Trafalgar's scheme of things.

TCB has had yet another profitable year.

Ominously Trafalgar have muttered "we shall be reviewing carefully the position of TCB Limited"

It is highly likely, and City opinion agrees, that they will float it off. In other words they will cash in on the hard-won profits of P&O's investment.

Fact. P&O oil trading and road transport are highly specialised operations. Trafalgar have only a limited interest in these fields. They have neither the experience nor the expertise of P&O. Under our management both operations are growing and healthy concerns.

Fact. P&O have a policy of reviewing ex-employees' pensions and increasing them to take account of inflation.

We are not aware of any such policy at Trafalgar.

Despite all of this, Trafalgar still insists the two companies are a perfect fit.

Fiction.



The directors of The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

Lone rower may miss Australia

Sydney (AP) - Peter Bird, the British lone oarsman who is attempting to be the first man to row across the Pacific, is being swept north by gales and heavy seas and may miss the Australian coast.

Doctor freed by Afghanistan

Paris (Reuter) - An Afghan doctor released a French doctor recently sentenced to eight years in prison on spying charges.

Mother Teresa cancels visit

Mother Teresa, the nun from Calcutta who won the Nobel Peace Prize, has cancelled her 17-day visit to Britain and Ireland, which was to have begun today.

Police jailed

Ankara (Reuter) - Four Turkish policemen, including the police chief of Kar province and his deputy, have been sentenced to prison terms of up to eight years for torturing Oruc Korkmaz, a left-wing political detainee, to death three years ago.

Harare deficit

Harare (Reuter) - Zimbabwe's trade deficit doubled last year to \$142m (£88.7m) from \$70m in 1981, according to figures released yesterday.

Kim ends fast

Seoul (AP) - Mr Kim Young Sam, the former South Korea opposition leader, said yesterday that he was ending a hunger strike he began 23 days ago, but vowed to continue his struggle for democratic reforms.

Rock rumpus

Rome (AP) - Police used tear gas to disperse more than 10 youths who threw stones at police cars after failing to get tickets for a concert by Pet Frampton, the British rock star at Capannelle race track.

Carnegie fire

New York (AP) - Fire broke out in a basement area of Carnegie Hall, forcing the evacuation of 3,000 people, including Mayor Edward Koch - who were attending graduation ceremonies. No injuries were reported.

Belgian change

Brussels (Reuter) - A Michel Tromont, the Belgian Francophone Education Minister, and Mrs Jacqueline Maye, the Secretary of State for Cooperation and Development have resigned and been replaced in the coalition cabinet by André Beertout and Mr François-Xavier de Doncker respectively. All four belong to the Francophone Liberal Party.

Hasty landing

Anchorage (AP) - A turbo-prop aircraft with 15 people aboard landed safely at Anchorage international airport Alaska after losing one of four propellers on a flight from Seattle. No injuries were reported.

Cool cats

Athens (AP) - Cats will be allowed to go swimming at Greek beaches this summer and that is official. They are included with dogs in an act making owners liable for a £3 fine if their pets infringe public health regulations by taking a dip.

Chirwas likely to escape the gallows

An appeal against death sentences for treason on Malawi's former Justice Minister, Mr Orton Chirwa, and his wife Vera means it is likely the couple will escape the gallows.

France hosts Nato meeting Russia accused of obstructing Geneva talks on missiles

Nato's special consultative group, the main committee on control of missiles in Europe, accused the Soviet Union yesterday of doing everything to block the Geneva negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF).

The Soviet Union unfortunately continues to resist achievement of an equitable agreement which recognizes the legitimate security concerns of both parties of both parties and their allies, the group said in a statement issued in Paris, where it is holding talks parallel to the meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Nato council.

Among other things, the Soviet Union continues to insist that it be compensated in the INF negotiations for the independent national forces of the United Kingdom and France. This position remains unacceptable and cannot serve as the basis for an agreement, Soviet adherence to it blocks the way to progress in the negotiations.

Heroes' welcome in Managua

Managua (Reuter) - Five of the 11 Nicaraguan consular officials expelled by the United States returned home last night to a heroes' welcome from thousands of Nicaraguans packing the airport and lining Managua's main streets.



Father D'Escoto: Target for 'poison plot'



Tenerife turns out to greet the hitchhiking Harrier

The Royal Naval Sea Harrier aircraft, perched on containers and chained to the deck of the Spanish cargo vessel Alraigo, making its undignified landfall watched by thousands of islanders on the quay in Santa Cruz de Tenerife yesterday.

The Spanish naval authorities immediately took charge of the vessel and its strange additional cargo that dropped from the skies three days ago, Richard Wigg writes from Tenerife. A naval investigating magistrate opened an inquiry.

The tiny grey warplane contrasted with the magnificent natural background of deep-blue Atlantic waters, cloud-capped volcanic mountains and El Teide, Spain's highest peak, in the far distance.

Freed Britons may fly home tomorrow

The group of 10 foreign relief workers, including four British and two Irish, abducted seven weeks ago by guerrillas in Ethiopia, are expected to be flown home by their respective embassies from Khartoum tomorrow.

Stench of bankruptcy over Liège

The stinking rubbish is piling high in the streets of bankrupt Liège. The smell of rotting garbage is so strong in the town's hospitals that doctors are worried it will soon constitute a health risk.

Sharon joins war inquiry clamour

Reserve General Ariel Sharon, Minister without Portfolio and former Defence Minister, plans to add his voice to the growing Israeli lobby calling for a full-scale inquiry into the conduct of the war in Lebanon, of which he is regarded as the chief architect.

Brazil lets arms return to Libya

Rio de Janeiro (Reuter) - A Libyan cargo aircraft left Rio de Janeiro yesterday to begin the shipment back to Tripoli of 52 tonnes of arms, intercepted by the Brazilian Government.

Guatemala City: A leading Guatemalan was relieved of his duties for demanding an end to military rule in an open letter to the President, AFP reports.

The stand by General Guillermo Echeverri, it was supported by the national bishops conference, which denounced frequent disappearances and 'the persistence of massacres' in certain regions.

Ex-Mountie is charged with spying

A former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police security service faces three charges of spying for the Soviet Union in a case that goes back nearly 30 years.

Solidarity agrees on radical change of tactics

Poland's underground Solidarity has decided on a radical shift in its strategy of opposition, abandoning its former aim of trying to put pressure on General Jaruzelski to make concessions and concentrating more on building up an 'underground society'.

Walesa refused

Warsaw (AFP) - Mr Lech Walesa has been refused three off from his job at the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk during the Pope's visit to Poland this month, a source at Mr Walesa's home said yesterday.

Chirwas likely to escape the gallows

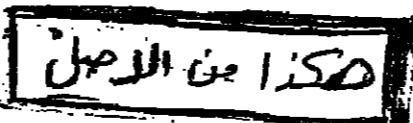
An appeal against death sentences for treason on Malawi's former Justice Minister, Mr Orton Chirwa, and his wife Vera means it is likely the couple will escape the gallows.

Gaddafi and Arafat may hold mini-summit

Bahrain (Reuter) - Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, arrived in North Yemen yesterday, soon after Mr Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the PLO, the Liberation Organization, flew in.

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Guerrillas hanged at dawn

ANC threatens vengeance

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Three black guerrillas of the African National Congress, whose last-minute application for a stay of execution was turned down on Wednesday night by the Supreme Court, were executed at 7am yesterday in the Pretoria Central Prison.

The South African Government had earlier rejected appeals for clemency from all over the world.

The three men, Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi and Marcus Motaung, all in their twenties, were hanged at the same time with two convicted murderers - Eric Marshall, a white, and Telele Kunene, black.

The Pretoria gallows is said to have the capacity to hang as many as six people at once.

EXECUTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA 1980-82					
Year	Blacks	Coloureds	Indians	Whites	Total
1980	85	43	1	130	169
1981	58	36	2	96	96
1982	62	37	1	100	100

Only prison officials were present. The prison was heavily guarded by police in camouflage uniforms who kept spectators at bay. There were no demonstrations.

A few blacks watched curiously from the other side of the road, and others drove by in buses on their way to work. At Sam church bells began tolling in Soweto, the sprawling dormitory town south-west of Johannesburg where million blacks live.

In Durban the police arrested about 23 people when some 400

students and workers marched through the streets waving banners made up of the colours of the ANC.

Most of the students came from the mainly white University of Natal medical school. Black students at the Fort Hare University in the "independent" Ciskei homeland, boycotted classes.

In Lusaka, the Zambian capital, the ANC's headquarters-in-exile issued a statement describing the execution as a cold-blooded murder of prisoners of war. The death of

the three men "must, and will, for us serve as a call to battle", the statement said.

"The perpetrators of this latest crime will be brought to book."

The view that the three dead men were soldiers waging a just war rather than terrorists and criminals, as the Government and most whites see them, was echoed by opposition groups inside South Africa.

The United Democratic Front, whose membership embraces black, coloured and Indian community leaders, students and trade unionists, declared: "The oppressed masses do not regard these three men as enemies of the people but rather as enemies of an unjust Government."

Lawyers applied late on Wednesday for a stay of execution on the grounds that the condemned men were needed to testify in a claim for 10,000 rands (£6,000) in damages brought against the police by Mr Motaung.

In an affidavit Mr Motaung said he had been shot "in the base of my penis" by a policeman at the time of his arrest. This had resulted in "loss of the amenities of life and disability".

The application was turned down by Mr Justice D. J. Curwen of the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The death penalty is imposed frequently in South Africa, mainly for murder, but also for treason, robbery and rape (see table).



Sworn in: Dr Soares (right) with President Eanes at yesterday's ceremony.

Soares paints a grim picture

From Susan MacDonald, Lisbon

Portugal's new centre-left coalition Government, its ninth administration since democracy was restored in 1975, was sworn in yesterday by President Eanes.

The new Prime Minister, Senhor Mario Soares, 58, had few words of optimism during his grim inaugural speech, Portugal had to face the fact that it was living beyond its means. Many private and state companies were on the verge of bankruptcy, there was severe liquidity problems and a drain

on reserves and inflation had reached record levels. He promised a government austerity programme to bring about economic recovery.

The coalition cabinet is composed of 17 ministers, of whom nine are Socialist, seven Social Democrat and one, Senhor Ernani Lopes, the Finance Minister, an Independent. The list includes the new Social Democrat leader, Professor Mota Pinto, who becomes Deputy Prime Minister of Defence, and Senhor Jaime

Gama, who has proved one of the ablest on the Socialist's team, as Foreign Minister. Senhor Soares has also created a new ministry for the Sea.

Cabinet list: Prime Minister: Mario Soares (PS); Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister: Carlos Mota Pinto (PSD); Minister of State: Antonio Almeida Santos (PS); Minister: Eduardo Pereira (PS); Foreign Affairs: Jaime Gama (PS); Justice: Rui Marinho (PSD); Culture: Antonio Caldeira Soares (PS); Social Affairs: Jose Rosendo Corral (PS); Industry: Jose Velaz Soares (PS); Labour: Amancio de Azevedo (PSD); Education: Jose Augusto Sampaio (PSD); Quality of Life: Antonio Capucho (PSD); Finance: Ernest Lopes (Independent); Transport: Avaro Barreto (PSD); Agriculture: Soares Costa (PSD); Sea: Carlos Malheiro (PS); Health: Madaleno Goncalves (PS).

Kohl attack on Reagan's economic recipes

Bonn (Reuters) - Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany yesterday criticized the United States for its unwillingness to change its economic policies at the Williamsburg summit meeting last month.

In a report on the summit to the Bundestag, Dr Kohl said: "It is unsatisfactory for us all that the United States is not yet ready to consider extensive, practical steps to ease the monetary and financial situation of its partners."

He added that the United States had at least recognized the need to discipline its budget and reduce new government debt.

In an apparent reference to France, Dr Kohl said that no country could emphasize the independence of European policy and at the same time blame the United States for most of its problems with interest rates and foreign exchange developments.

Dr Kohl said that the summit declaration was not just a message of hope but an agreement on common strategy, and none of the seven participants could back out without damaging its image.

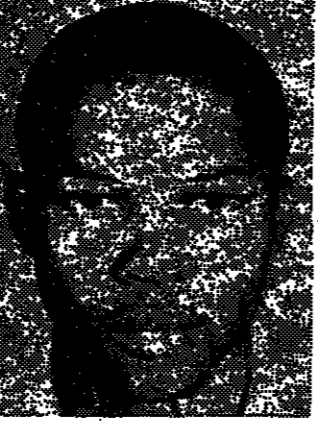
Graf Otto Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, speaking in the debate that followed said that doubts on whether the economic upturn in the United States would lead to lasting recovery remained a threat to West Germany's own recovery.



Jerry Mosololi



Marcus Motaung



Simon Mogoerane

OAU told to amass nuclear arsenal

Addis Ababa (Reuters, AFP) - The Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity yesterday urged African states to acquire nuclear weapons to match what he called South Africa's nuclear might.

Mr Edem Kodjo, who comes from Togo, told the OAU's first summit for two years: "It is the duty of member states, which are able to, to embark resolutely on the nuclear path."

Mr Kodjo, the outgoing Secretary-General, said South Africa had developed nuclear weapons which could be directed only against African states, and urged the 49 countries present to obtain a parallel deterrent.

He defended himself against criticism for admitting the Polisario Western Sahara independence movement to the OAU last year, a decision which plunged the organization into crisis.

The Polisario's Saharan Arab Democratic Republic became the OAU's fifty-first member without a formal vote because Mr Kodjo said its entry was automatic once it was recognized by half the OAU's members.

The summit, which should have opened on Monday,

almost collapsed when the anti-Polisario group refused to take part with the Saharan delegation, which resolved the dispute by agreeing not to attend the meeting.

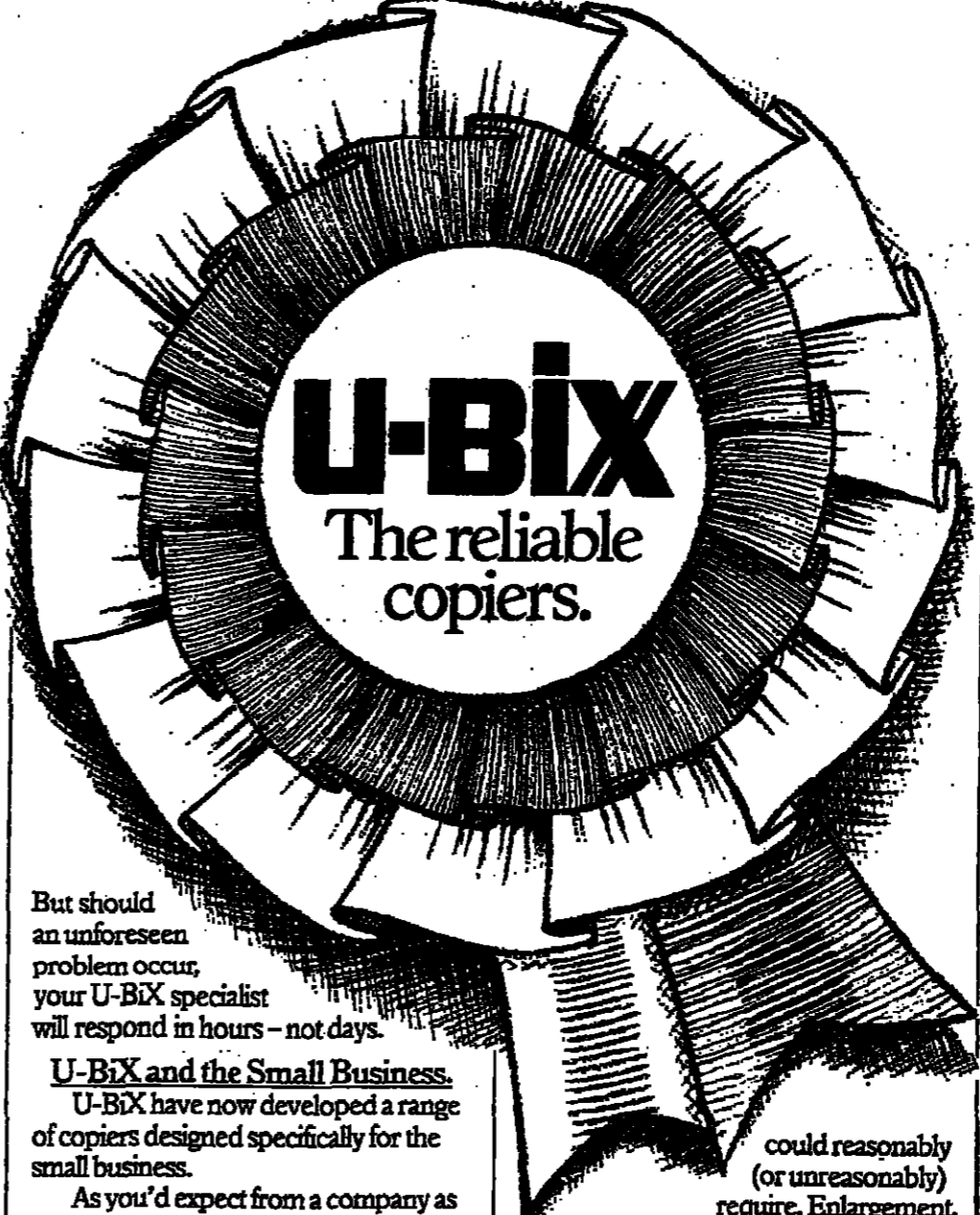
The Western Sahara is still on the agenda and delegates said some states wanted it discussed as soon as possible.

Behind-the-scenes negotiations were still going on to persuade Morocco, which rules the Western Sahara, to match the Sahara concession. Delegates said some countries were pressing Morocco to fix a timetable for a referendum asking the inhabitants of the former Spanish territory whether they want independence or integration with Morocco.

Official and unofficial candidates for the post of Secretary-General are Mr Boudin Beye, Foreign Minister of Mali, and Mr Abdoulati Conteh Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone. Gabon is presenting President Bongo's adviser Mr Paul Okouma D'Okwatsague. Mr Salim Salim, the Tanzanian Foreign Minister, is seen as a possible compromise candidate if there is no clearly preferred runner.

The summit ended its public session yesterday.

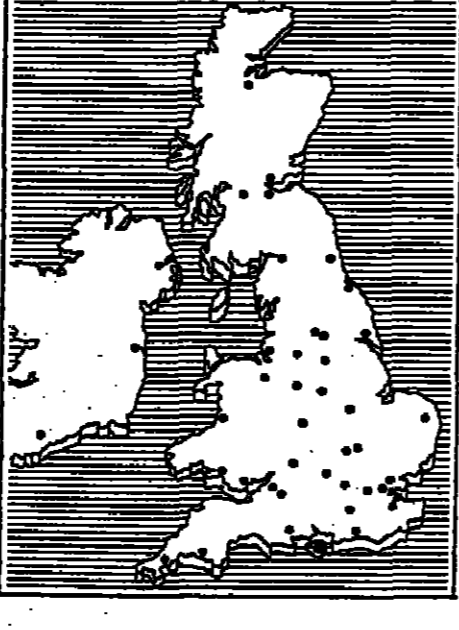
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Harare trial lawyers denied files

From Stephen Taylor Harare

The Thornhill sabotage trial of six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers heard yesterday that Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, had refused to allow the officers' lawyers access to certain air force documents, including files on the defendants.

Mr Harry Ognall QC, protested against the decision, saying that it was a serious imposition on his conduct of the defence.

Mr Honor Mkhushi, for the state, said that a certificate had been issued by Mr Mugabe that certain documents should not be released "for consideration of public security". Other documents had been passed to the defence.

Evidence that the officers had been tortured until they confessed to complicity in the sabotage of aircraft at Thornhill base continued on Wednesday with testimony by Wing Commander Joan Cox, the fourth defendant. He said that an object "like a red-hot wire brush" was rubbed between his buttocks and he was then subjected to electric shock treatment.

Uganda girl students die in raid

From Charles Harrison Nairobi

Unidentified men armed with guns, axes, knives and other weapons, killed at least 12 students in an attack on the Gayaza girls' high school and the nearby Makerere University farm, 14 miles north of Kampala, local villagers say.

Students and staff of the university farm at Kabanyolo have now been evacuated to the main campus in Kampala. The reports say nine girls at Gayaza and three students at Labanyolo died in the attacks, and others were wounded. Villagers who fled from their homes in the area said government troops carried out the attacks, as part of a sweep against anti-government guerrillas who had been reported to be in the same area. The official version is likely to be that it was the work of bandits - the Government's term for guerrillas.

Mr Paulo Muwanga, the Ugandan Vice-President and Defence Minister, has denied reports in some British newspapers that 150,000 civilians have been killed over the last four years. He also denied that villagers who were moved into makeshift camps to facilitate anti-bandit drives are suffering from starvation.

Cambodia tension eased

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Vietnam and Thailand have agreed on "dialogue, no confrontation" over Cambodia, according to Mr Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's Foreign Minister.

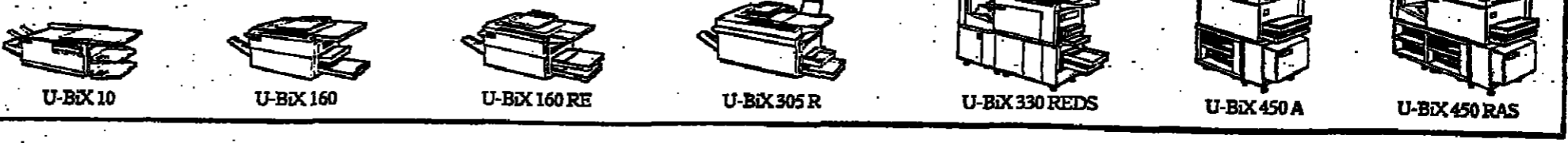
He told journalists last night, after discussions in Bangkok with Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Sawetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, that "after 40 years of obstruction to relations between my country and Thailand, things are moving a little bit".

Mr Co Thach said he and his Thai counterpart had agreed that ultimately Cambodia should become an independent, neutral and non-aligned country, but he denied this rep-

resented a new approach by his Government. "I have said it before - it is as old as the Earth", he said. The method by which Cambodia should achieve that status could not be discussed in Bangkok as that was something for the Cambodian people only.

The Thai Foreign Ministry said that it was the first time that Vietnam had suggested that Cambodia should be independent, neutral and non-aligned.

Referring to relations with China, Mr Co Thach said that Vietnam was trying to find common ground with Peking, but more time was needed to explore possibilities.



# Macho Mailer faces up to posterity's view

The rogue elephant of American letters has, as you would expect, a thick skin and a protruding belly that hangs low. Personal remarks of this sort, normally in poor taste, are surely acceptable when speaking of Norman Mailer, who, even at 60, with grizzled hair, a bad back and a good deal of quite irresistible charm, prides himself on his vulgarity.

Excrement - but the word he uses in his new novel and in conversation is never excrement - as a major theme of that novel, *Ancient Evenings*, which he is finishing and which he forces are my state," the book begins. Mailer's state, too. He has built a legend on such stuff. And on the occasion of the publication of his twenty-second book, nothing anyone can say will really hurt him. He is Hemingway's heir, the most famous American writer of his generation, more notorious than his books.

It is a role impossible to play with dignity. "I made a choice years ago," Mailer says in a voice surprisingly deep for so small a man. "I had a feeling that if one didn't bludgeon one's way into some kind of public recognition that you were out there writing, then you'd disappear. I probably panicked a little too early. I probably was wrong. But I had a feeling that

the other way was too passive. One was leaving one's life to the literary establishment. And I've never felt that there was a natural affection between the literary establishment and myself."

Nor has he felt innate affection between himself and the political establishment, or the media at large. "The moment they start to like me, I do something that by their measure is absurd. I think I'm looked at in America the way Enoch Powell is looked at here. Like, oh God, what is that guy going to say next?"

Powell's ability to shock, not his political position, is what Mailer admires. The one writer in America whom the television audiences want to hear pontificate on almost anything would rather say something naughty than wise. Mailer describes himself as a "left conservative", but his political involvements have always been characterized more by an attraction towards the spotlight than a yearning for power.

In 1960, for example, he ran for mayor of New York. "I had



the idea that New York City should become the fifty-first state. People said we were running for fun. It was hard work. We'd have walkabouts, make 10 or 12 speeches a day and have strategy sessions until the early hours." He lost, but it was a good scrap: an interesting "existential" experience.

It prepared him, he feels, for the three off-the-cuff articles on the British election which he is

currently writing for the *Mail on Sunday*, at what is reported to be a huge fee ("I didn't know it was such a right-wing paper," he says). Two of the articles have appeared, neither revealing his preferred candidate. It did not take much pressure to get him to admit his choice. "I wouldn't vote for Thatcher. Oh no, never. I'd vote for Foot. But I'm not really trying to influence the British voter. I would

think that vain and unpleasant beyond belief. I respect Thatcher as an artist or an athlete who has found her métier, but I find her habit of mind repulsive."

For Mailer, this foray into British politics represents just one of many diversions which have prolonged the gestation of *Ancient Evenings*. After 11 years of effort, interspersed with a lot of "quickies", no wonder he describes it as "my most important book and, I think, my best book."

Many American reviewers have found it easy to disagree. "Five out of six reviewers in New York" - in other words, the ones which count in America - "were bad as hell. After the trade journal called it a masterpiece, the other critics just sharpened their knives."

He says that he knew they would. They resent his long series of infidelities to literature - the quickies, such as *Of Women and Their Elegance* and that odd, acrophobic coffee-table book about Marilyn Monroe. "I write every book for the money," he says. "I have

huge alimony payments and nine children. But not just for the money. You're always balancing. The unconscious meets the computer in your mind and says, this book will bring you so many dollars; on the other hand, it will be this much more deleterious to your career because it will be considered that you're turning commercial."

What concerns him now is posterity's view. "Nobody knows much about Tolstoy," he observes. "They just read his books. More and more I find myself attracted to writers like Dostoyevsky, Stendhal, D.H. Lawrence - and I'm not comparing myself to them - who want to break up the bell game, explore new territory."

As an illustration, he takes the overwhelming interest in excrement and bowel functions shown throughout *Ancient Evenings*. "It hadn't been done," he says, "so I thought it ought to be done." He explains the novel's frequent descriptions of homosexual activity, which might be thought mere

titillation, as a matter of facing up to his fears. "The excrement" - that is not the word he uses - "bothered me much less in the book than the homosexuality. People always identify a writer with the first person singular. Write about a black woman with one leg, three feet tall, and they say it's you."

Sometimes, however, it is the feeling that he wishes he had not concentrated so hard and long on going one better than Papa Hemingway. "He aroused much more excitement in the people who met him than I do. For one thing he was a truly imposing figure of a man. Handsome. But I am far better known, because of television. I may be walking down the street, about to trap a wonderful thought, and somebody will come up to me and say, 'Hey, it's none of my business, but aren't you Norman Mailer?' It wrecks all thought. It's like being a beautiful woman walking down the street and getting whistled at all the time."

Adrienne Blue

# Python's meaning of life is that life makes no sense

Calculated to offend just about everybody, Monty Python's new film is a certain hit. Michael Watts talks taste with the team

Halfway through Monty Python's *The Meaning of Life* there is a restaurant sequence so alarming that it may test the willingness of some in the audience to see the film through. In what is effectively a parody both of *La Grande Bouffe* and of *The Exorcist*, a horribly obese Terry Jones gorges himself, pausing only to vomit copiously, while a besmirched head waiter dances obsequious attendance. When "Mr Creosote", looking not unlike Alfred Hitchcock, finally bursts in an explosion of muck and offal, the most resolute sensibilities may quail.

Relentless and appalling, perhaps, but it is difficult to convey how funny is this scene, whose humour surely springs from the contrast between the customer's piggery and the stylised attentions of the waiter, played in best Fawcettian fashion by John Cleese. What begins by seeming gratuitous ends as a statement on gluttony and phony gentility.

Although, as with all Python films, the point of attack is concealed in silliness and fantasy, *The Meaning of Life* (which opens in Britain on June 23), is in such savage breach of good taste that it satirizes taste itself, and especially the prevailing sensationalism of much popular cinema: the National Lampoon series and exploitative horror films, for example.

*Life of Brian*, Monty Python's last and most accomplished film, also gaged screen conventions, and the specific target of Zeffirelli's *Jesus of Nazareth*. Lacking *Brian*'s narrative thread, *The Meaning* revives the mad sketch format of the original television series, with admittedly sporadic and unwieldy results: Terry Gilliam's long profanity sequence, a pirate fable about modern big business that is almost a short film in itself, nearly unbalances the movie, its witty execution notwithstanding.

Yet the loose structure, and the portmanteau theme of "the seven ages of man", at least allows the Python troupe to score widely at the expense of the British officer class, modern sex education and birth techniques, sanitized visions of death and the after-life, and untimely organ transplants. Among their cherishable absurdities are talking fish, used as a kind of Greek chorus, and a children's musical number, reminiscent of *Oliver!*, with the title "Every Sperm Is Sacred", aimed squarely at Catholic attitudes to birth control.

For John Cleese, however, Mr Creosote remains the film's greatest creation ("splendid bad taste"), and within Python's unselfish democracy he lobbied Jones, the character's author, for the chance to play his foil, the lick-spittle waiter. "I saw how funny the head-waiter could be", he



Python humour, according to John Cleese, is informed by goodwill and enjoyment of life. Above right, he ministers to Terry Jones's guzzling Mr Creosote

says, "because anybody who behaves as though that outrageousness is not happening has got to be comic."

*Life of Brian* was greeted, four years ago, at first with indignation by religious bodies and moral watchdogs such as the Festival of Light; subsequently churchmen wrote to Monty Python, anxious to discuss its merits. Apart from a few queasy patrons, *The Meaning of Life* has attracted no such initial protest in America, which might indicate that in the interim the public has become less easily shocked. Cleese maintains that taste is none the less a private matter.

"It's very hard to spot people's sensitivities. The first time I did the dreaded Silly Walks, in 1971, two days later I was walking down Oxford Street and bumped into a man who used to run BBC Light Entertainment, and he said to me, 'Didn't you think of all the parents of spastic children?'" Cleese mimics incredulity. "You've just got to use your gut. And one of the advantages of Monty Python's name now is that most people know what they're going to see."

"I think Python humour is actually informed by good will. Lindsay Anderson is someone who seems to me to take perfectly funny comedy situations and then spoils them because, if he can't enjoy life, why

should anybody else? Whereas the Python people, I think, really enjoy life and also see how absurd it is - or maybe we enjoy it because we see how absurd it is."

His own life was shaken five years ago by his divorce from Connie Booth, his co-writer of *Fawlty Towers*, and for three and a half years he went to a family therapist. He has since married again, to a painter, and lives in Holland Park, in a house formerly owned by the rock star Bryan Ferry. But his experiences in therapy have produced a book, a dialogue with his psychiatrist, Robin Skynner, called *Families and How to Survive Them*, which is published in September. Its original title was *Kitchen Sink*; too flippant, he decided, for a book which he hopes will instruct and reflect his enlightenment.

He says that therapy has compelled him to reappraise his respectable, lower middle-class upbringing in Weston-Super-Mare, and the liberal-socialist education he received at Cambridge: "I came out of therapy a couple of months before *The Life of Brian*, and felt it was almost the most interesting experience of my life. It's largely a question of having your ego cut down to size. Most of the things we've got wrong can be explained by having an ego that's too big."

At 43, he is reconsidering even his attitudes to humour. "At the last Amnesty International concert there were people who were unquestionably funny, but they didn't strike me as funny. I don't know whether it's age or what, but I'm beginning to part company with a lot of my fellow countrymen's attitudes. Reality is always funnier than anything you can invent, but once you get into your forties I think you start to let go of any last lingering thought that life makes any sense, or that society can ever be organized really satisfactorily. Let go of that and almost everything seems to be funny."

"I mean, the last thing I wrote that was really funny was something suggested to me about Oliver Cromwell: the idea that if you were sufficiently paranoid, once you had wiped out your enemies you had no alternative but to start on your own side. It's a hilarious idea. Hitler, in his final days, having got rid of everybody among the Communists, trade unions, socialists, racial groups and Brown-shirts, finished up wiping out members of his own High Command!" The thought provoked him to wheezy amusement.

His financial independence from Monty Python is guaranteed by his own company, Video Arts Ltd, which

makes training films and won the Queen's Award for Exports in 1982. Divorce has rendered another series of *Fawlty Towers* unlikely, but he plans to make a film with the director of *The Lavender Hill Mob*, Charles Crichton. He is comfortable enough, he says, to have recently turned down an offer of \$500,000 to play a comedy secret agent, and also a role in Tony Palmer's *Wagner* which he felt would have meant repeating Basil Fawlty.

"They sent me two pages of script. All the character did was rant and rave and pull a woman's hair. Then they added insult to injury by saying they thought they might ask Prunella Scales to play my wife." Incredulity again.

Will Monty Python continue? Cleese's pessimism is founded upon his frustrations with committee-writing and the difficulty during *The Meaning of Life* of agreeing on a structure. He feels he may instead sit down and write films with individual Pythons.

"I don't see much advantage in Python for me now, because I want to make my own mistakes. You think, well, another 20 years and I'll probably be too added to do anything much. The only way I'd repeat the process is if we all agreed a starting-point, like *Life of Brian*, because during the time we wrote *Meaning of Life* I could've written two movies."

# Will the Russians fall for the Silly Walk?

Devotees have included the aging Elvis Presley, comforted in his final, drugged years by tapes of their television series. In Japan, viewers apparently watch a Python sketch, then see actors interpret its absurd lunacy as if to encourage imitation.

Monty Python's most conspicuous achievement lies in confounding the axiom that British comedy does not travel well. Now their producer, John Goldstone, hopes *The Meaning of Life* may become the first Monty Python film to be shown in Russia after winning this year's Special Jury Prize in Cannes, where the Soviet director Sergei Bondarchuk was a juror. The Russian embassy has asked to see a print.

Goldstone attributes the wide appeal of Python humour to its recognisable targets. *Life of Brian*, for example, is essentially analysing people's gullibility to organized religion, a subject that is universally known, he explains. His opinion has been endorsed at the box office. *Brian* has made \$75 million since its release in 1979, and *Holy Grail* \$50 million, though it cost only \$225,000 (mostly from record companies and rock groups) and each Python got an initial fee of about £2,000: a financial record which Goldstone feels has been under-appreciated amidst British euphoria over *Gandhi* and *Chariots of Fire*.

In America, these figures persuaded Universal Pictures to guarantee \$8 million and artistic carte blanche for *The Meaning of Life*. Since its March opening there it has taken more than \$15m, and has been widely described as "Swifarian satire", praise which Python member Michael Palin modestly appreciates. "I wish I could say we're in the forefront of the great taboobreakers, but it comes down to what makes us all laugh, and that tends to be accompanied by a fairly acerbic view of the world."

Until now Monty Python have struggled to make films. In 1978 Lord Delfont, chairman of EMI Films, retracted his commitment to *Life of Brian*, allegedly because the script blasphemed Christ. His decision was doubly ironic. Not only did the film subsequently appear in EMI cinemas, but in order to produce it Python formed HandMade Films, now a small pillar of the convalescent British film industry. They raised \$4m through the ex-Beatle George Harrison, a long-standing Python fan, and his company Envo Atlantic, whose American chief executive, Dennis O'Brien, became their business manager - although Python are no longer with him or HandMade.

O'Brien urged the team, not unreasonably, to write a quick screenplay and capitalize upon *Brian*'s popularity. But Python, whose working methods are slow, could not respond to his insistence. *The Meaning of Life* continued to elude them until Jones suggested its eventual structure at a last-ditch script conference, held in Jamaica in January, 1982.

The stress of writing the film has not included some Python members to repeat the process, although Palin maintains their joint and solo ventures can co-exist because of different comic requirements.

# As predicted, the result I had feared/prayed for

Note to readers: although this is a post-election piece, I was forced by newspaper schedules to write it before the voting had even started. I have therefore had to adjust my opinions accordingly. I hope you will understand.

happiest/most content/most puzzled/woman alive.

Those of us who sat right through last night's election coverage must have felt they were witnessing a one-horse race/Whitehall farce/rp-run of Robin Day's shoot-out with Mrs Thatcher. The abiding memory is of the dejected expression of Neil Kinnock/Roy Jenkins/Professor Ivor Crewe, as he sought to explain how the forecasts had "quite true/not done what David Steel told them to do/blown off his desk when David Dimbleby opened the door, and hovering overall the somewhat quizzical expression of Cecil Parkinson/Michael Parkinson/Dr C. Northcote Parkinson.

So, what has changed? The brief answer is, nothing/nothing/nothing. Mrs Thatcher has received the kind of majority which will enable her

## MOREOVER... Miles Kington

to carry on as before/leave Francis Pym taken out and "shoot/have" the unemployed silent-out-and-shot. We shall not, for a long time, be seeing again: the familiar features of Tony Benn/Francis Pym/Ivor Crewe, and for this at least our reactions can only be feelings of relief/euphoria/who? The election was so predictable that almost the only surprise came from the sight of Roy Jenkins being carried out feet first at Hillhead/ Norman St John Stevas misquoting Disraeli/Robin Day bursting into tears on air and exclaiming: "If only I could have my interview with Maggie all over again!"

It was, in brief, the kind of election of which Groucho/Karl/Harpo Marx would have

Owen/the truth from Shirley Maclaine.

As many commentators have said, this election has been a definitive watershed in British politics/a total bore/at least better than highlights from Wales v Northern Ireland, so the big question now concerns Michael Foot. Will he be given another chance/ditched gracefully/put into a barrel to be floated slowly across to Northern Ireland? In the longer term, will the Labour Party survive as a future government/windings opposition/a small tourist attraction in the north of England? And will there come a time when the Alliance decides to move its voters around the country in order to make sure of seats? get David Owen re-elected/see how the other half lives?

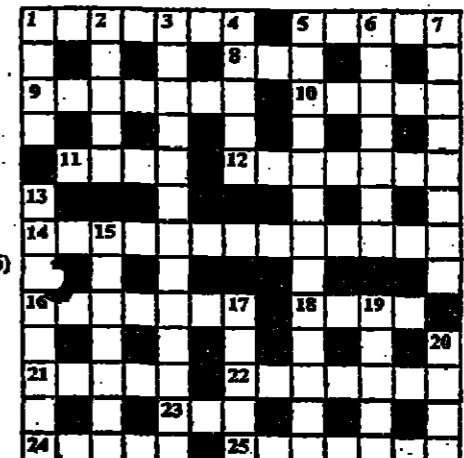
This much is certain: those of us who sat up late last night/went straight to bed/get involved in a party and don't

remember much about anything, will never see another election quite like it/will watch old movies next time/will phone the office in a moment to say we'll be in after lunch. The old system has been shattered/is still exactly the same/feels pretty grossly this morning. The Labour Party is in for a bloodbath/a post-mortem of Beirut proportions/considerable relief that it won't have to form the next government. The Alliance will rejoice that it got a sudden surge in popular support/an anonymous cheque for £5/any MPs at all. And Mrs Thatcher can look forward to the next five years in the confident knowledge that she can rebuild Britain/can do anything she likes/is the only person in the country with a safe job.

This is Miles Kington reporting from News at Ten/Satichi and Satichi/the doctor's surgery.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 79)

- ACROSS  
1 Aid (7)  
5 Reuser (5)  
8 Billiard rod (3)  
9 Coming (7)  
10 Official positions (5)  
11 Day division (4)  
12 Conveyance (7)  
13 Total (13)  
16 Flicking (7)  
18 Assistant (4)  
21 Apply diligently (5)  
22 First (7)  
23 Alphabet (1, 1, 1)  
24 Hard alloy (5)  
25 Released (7)
- DOWN  
1 Actual (4)  
2 Slow music (5)  
3 Of surroundings (13)  
4 Brilliant success (5)  
5 Instalment publication (13)  
6 Deer flesh (7)



SOLUTION TO No 78  
ACROSS: 1 Slouch 5 Saddle 8 Ant 9 Arisen 10 Enrich 11 Oyer 12 Baritone 13 Bigwig 15 Rubber 17 Platypus 20 Frit 22 Unroll 23 Fallen 24 You 25 Asteep 26 Lortly  
DOWN: 2 Lorry 3 Unscrow 4 Handbag 5 Steep 6 Durst 7 Licence 14 Islands 15 Resisted 16 Butler 18 Thous 19 Polyp 21 kinal (Solution to No 79 On Monday). Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise.

Caroline Moorehead investigates the changing roles of women in the diplomatic world and the Civil Service

Flagging round the flag...

Jenny Lewis was in her early twenties, a graduate in medicine doing cancer research for ICI, when she married a British Council officer and found herself in a small town in Biafra. That was 12 years ago. "I've done no research since. I think I've kissed that life goodbye. I shall never get a similar job now: the world is full of younger graduates with recent experience."

no cinema, no radio. I wasn't allowed to drive. My husband was constantly away on tour. Mrs Lewis occupied a role almost unique in modern marriage and, for all the cosmetic improvements, little altered since the day when diplomatic and council wives were expected to carry the British flag and code of behaviour to the unformed beyond the seas. Her experiences may be extreme, but they highlight the growing contradictions that now confront both the foreign service and the British Council.

As John England, of the British Council, explains: "The myth is still there: a nice house, lots of servants, endless sunshine. But today a spouse's life is hardly a recipe for happiness. Often highly trained women are expected to abandon their own expectations, move house every three years, travel to any one of nearly 80 countries, many of them in the Third World, learning a new



The way things were: an afternoon outing for diplomatic wives at Simla around 1880

language and leaving their children behind. The glamour had gone. With rising terrorism, just to be British can now be a liability. The difficulties are now sufficiently glaring to cause Mrs Lewis's

husband Sean to speak of rising numbers of divorces and breakdowns in both services and to declare: "Quite simply, we are not getting the candidates we think we should be getting." If, across the way in Whitehall, applications to the diplomatic service remain numerous, it is perhaps, as one officer put it, that "unlike the British Council, we have had 200 years in which to grind down Foreign Office spouses."

It is largely in response to the changing needs and demands of the women who marry into the service that wives in both departments formed themselves into associations campaigning for improved conditions and recognition of their special position. The larger and more formal of the two bodies (with some 4,000 members) is the Diplomatic Service Wives Association, considered influential enough by the Foreign Office to merit a couple of offices in Whitehall and a full-time paid secretary.

The association committee meets regularly to discuss welfare, housing and families with the administration. Recent months have seen successful fights to extend the payment of school fees and lobbying for full payment of a third ticket

each year to reunite children with their parents abroad. The DSWA filing cabinets are bulging with information on climate and medical conditions of countries, schooling and grants, work permits and special allowances - small beer, perhaps, but vital to women cut off from everything they know and understand. What do wives actually complain about? Most acutely, and most predictably in an age when as one woman put it, "it has become hard to live in someone else's shadow", they talk of lack of work.

Jenny Lewis's position is particularly hard, but not exceptional. Service wives can find work, but it is rare that they can pick up their original career.

In some countries, no work permits are available for wives; in others, standards and qualifications preclude employment. Despite the hundred hours' tuition offered to wives before they set off for a new post, language is also a constant problem. A questionnaire sent out to FO wives by Jill Fellow of the DSWP shows that some three-quarters of women who replied wished to work. Only half actually do so.

There are, of course, exceptions. Jill Fellow was a civil servant, an Oxford graduate, when she married a diplomat and went off to Singapore. Their second posting to Saigon, opened a door she might never have considered; she became a university lecturer. Since then, she has completed a PhD, turned it into a book, and is now embarking on a second one.

More usual among highly qualified wives, however, are those who work as hard as they can when the going is good, then reconcile themselves to a sudden and often bitterly-felt break. Virginia Crowe was doing academic research while her husband was in the embassy in Washington. Then the family was moved to Bonn. She spoke no German. "It's the classic dilemma: to go from the high point of achievement to scratch," she said.

Kate Stark, the wife of a diplomat between postings said: "You have to be adaptable. You don't know which bit of you is going to be useful."

Work, of course, is not the only irritant. The social obligations once expected of service women - like the ambassador's wife's compulsory sewing bee - have largely evaporated, but diplomats are rarely able to divorce work from contacts and entertaining, and very few wives do not play some social role. (Though no longer, it turns out, by compulsion. When a diplomatic wife in Madrid recently applied for medical expenses after burning her hand at a dinner party, her application was turned down on the grounds that entertaining at home was not mandatory. Some of the wives were a little shocked: there had been something definitely reassuring about considering it all an unavoidable chore.)

Jill Fellow, in a recent posting to Rome, had to reckon on four nights' social life a week; Kate Stark, in Israel, on five. When Geoffrey Moorhouse was writing *The Diplomats*, he discovered that in a single year, the ambassador to Paris had given guests on 250 occasions, over meals to 2,000 people, and drinks and tea to a further 1,800.

At every meeting, the social duties of wives are hotly debated. Jenny Lewis, at a recent British Council Wives Association gathering asked: "Should wives perhaps be paid for entertaining? There were howls of protest. "Who wants to be a paid cook? How could we justify it if we refuse?" "It's horribly divisive." Among the older wives, a public school spirit dominates. The consensus in both services is that the lot of British Council wives is better. They may not carry the status of FO ladies, but they can entertain more informally and far more pleasurably.

At the moment, few service families see an alternative to sending

older children home to boarding school (fees largely paid by British Council or Foreign Office). Women eager to reassure themselves speak of how close the family remains, and how more intense the relationship is during the holidays.

More readily, they talk of the horrors of the constant moves, during which comforting possessions are all too easily lost or smashed - it is said that three foreign postings are the equivalent in damage to a major fire - of the random and sudden nature of the postings themselves and of the much underrated confusions of coming home.

Kate Stark said that once settled in a small house in the suburbs, she felt cut off from the cosy camaraderie of mission life. "It seemed to have moved to a different wave length from my friends. I wanted to describe my experiences. No one seemed interested." Virginia Crowe compared coming home to getting out of prison: "It's as if there had been an unexplained gap. You don't know what's been happening." Complaints, however, are not welcome. It is commonly agreed that to refuse one posting is just about acceptable. To do so twice is not.

Sean Lewis, in his capacity as deputy director looking after conditions of service hears daily of the anxieties and misgivings of council officers and their wives. (Wives, once, were vetted. Now, unless "utterly dreadful or remarkable" they are not thought to be, though the shadow of scrutiny still hangs over many of them.) Following his hunch that the divorce rate in the British Council and Foreign Office was markedly high as wives grew embittered in protracted tours in uncongenial places, he set out to establish a profile of employees' grievances.

The exercise has not proved easy enough for him to take to the Treasury, as he had hoped, basic statistics on which to argue for more understanding conditions of employment, but it has armed him with the information to write a booklet called *Working Overseas*, a rational and humane document very different from the *Handbook on Diplomatic Life Abroad*, composed by a one-time minister to the Vatican and concerned largely with the niceties of diplomatic etiquette.

If Sean Lewis's anxieties are correct, what diplomatic wives need are not simply better perks, but recognition of the largely unused part they have played in foreign diplomacy over the years. Armed with this, wives might very well continue to find their role of chief, public relations officer, linguist and peripatetic housewife palatable for decades to come.



The diplomatic wives. Left to right: Jill Fellow, Virginia Crowe, Kate Stark and Jane Reid

'Civil Service women take more kindly than men or boys to sedentary employment'

...frustrated at home

In 1871, a senior civil servant in the Post Office pointed out that, contrary to all expectations there were advantages in employing women in the Civil Service. "The same wage", he declared, "draws a much better class of woman."

Furthermore "they take more kindly than men or boys do to sedentary employment". Over a century later, some 200,000 women work for the Civil Service, nearly half the workforce, and 2.5 per cent of the entire British labour force. Year by year, the percentage rises. But their lot is not always a happy one, and battles are currently being fought to improve conditions said to be more inherently discriminatory than those in many large modern companies. This month a plan of action is being hammered out between unions and administration to attempt to set down guidelines for a more equal future.

The debate over women's inferior status as civil servants goes back to 1970, when a committee was set up under Mrs Kemp-Jones, a senior official in the DHSS. Its report, *Employment of Women in the Civil Service*, published in October 1971, was forward looking, if not actually radical.

Of its 25 recommendations, four were about clearing up lingering pockets of more blatant discrimi-

nation - posts still closed to women, no women on promotion boards - and these were immediately implemented. The other 21 were aimed principally at introducing a more sympathetic attitude towards women who wanted to combine marriage and families with a serious career.

The report, greeted with considerable approval, managed to increase the notion of the Civil Service as a humane and progressive employer, a state of mind it has basked in for the best part of a decade.

It was towards the end of the 1970s that women working in the service began to grow restive. What had actually happened, they asked, to all those favourable Kemp-Jones' recommendations?

Even a cursory survey of the Civil Service structure quickly revealed that employment in 1981, as in the past, was still geared to people who would work without break from the day they were recruited until the day they retired.

Part time positions, held principally by women, rose by a dizzy 2,000 in ten years - from between 15,000 and 16,000 in 1970 to 17,932 at the beginning of 1980, and these

were concentrated mainly in the lower grades: 28 per cent cleaners, 31 per cent typists and secretaries, 26 per cent clerical, leaving a bare 4 per cent above.

Most generous with part time positions are the Paymaster General's Office (7.8 per cent of staff) and the Lord Chancellor's Office (6.8 per cent); least generous the Department of Energy (1.7 per cent) and the Ministry of Defence (1.8 per cent). Still, compared to the private sector, with 17 per cent of people in part time work, the Civil Service record, with 4.5 per cent is dismal.

Paucity of part time work is merely one complaint levelled against the Civil Service as an employer of women. Figures show that women in the Professional and Technology category barely reach half per cent, but that they continue to dominate the lower grades: secretaries: 99.5 per cent; cleaners: 94 per cent; data processors: 85 per cent; telephonists: 81 per cent.

Finally, even allowing for differences in seniority, and method and age of entry, women in 1981 had only a 60 per cent chance of that of their male colleagues of being promoted.

Faced with these depressing figures, women civil servants began casting somewhat covetous eyes in the direction of France (where any employee with over six month's service can work part time if he or she has young children or relatives in need of care) or, closer to home, to the more progressive councils like Camden in London (which has paternity leave, an active job sharing scheme, a retaining policy for women and a staff day nursery).

Though often sceptical about the discontent driving their female employees ("it's all played up by activists", said one civil servant) the administration agreed, early in 1980, to set up a new committee of inquiry, this time run jointly by the unions and management.

The committee's deliberations earlier this year produced a report, *Equal Opportunities for Women in the Civil Service*, no less generous in spirit towards women than its predecessor.

The Kemp-Jones report failed, it seems, because its recommendations were permissive rather than mandatory. The strongest fear among the unions and the women campaigning so vigorously for reform is that the new report will be agreed enthusiastically in principle, but that no central political will or funding will follow, thereby leaving it just as toothless as its predecessor.

bargain, the manufacturers claim. They say the hospital and pharmacy supplies have run out because the timetable has not been followed.

Last week the manufacturers pleaded with doctors not to prescribe the syringes unless they were sure the prescriptions could be honoured.

**Tired doctors**  
The long hours that hospital doctors have to work have been much criticized. A recent letter to The Lancet detailing a small study of twelve doctors in Glasgow has shown that tiredness could impair a doctor's mental capacities in a way that is potentially dangerous. On completing a questionnaire designed to measure state of mind eight of 12 doctors who had just spent a night on call were found to be distressed. More importantly the doctors, as a group, were less able to do simple arithmetic. Their performance in a test where they were asked to add up numbers presented to them at a given time interval was as much as 50 per cent better after a night's sleep than after a night on duty. Psychologist Martin Livingston of the University of Glasgow cautions that this study was small and that it doesn't prove patient's health is being put at risk. However, in The Lancet letter he and psychiatrist, Dr Katherine Leighton, point out that on a busy ward errors of arithmetic could have tragic consequences.

**Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser**  
Olivia Timbs is editor of *Medicomics* and Lorraine Fraser is Science editor of *General Practitioner*

MEDICAL BRIEFING

combination of therapies. The diary gives patients a chance to order and structure their chaotic eating patterns and once that is achieved it gives the patients a chance to tackle the reasons for their peculiar behaviour. Support in coping with the depression following a stop in the binge/vomiting pattern comes from their fellow sufferers. Most importantly it keeps the patients out of hospital, makes them responsible for getting better themselves and the programme can be conducted by paramedical staff under medical supervision.

**Needed**  
A plan to switch the UK's 250,000 diabetics who need daily injections of insulin on to a standard strength of the hormone which is safer and simpler to use has run into trouble. As a result many diabetics have not been able to get the special syringes they need to give themselves injections of the insulin.

The programme, organized by the British Diabetic Association, started in March. The plan was for hospitals gradually to give all diabetics in the area the new 100 unit (u100) insulin over a period of 18 months. Syringe manufacturers were asked to provide a steady supply of new syringes to hospital pharmacies over this period. But doctors and health authorities have created a shortage of syringes by not sticking to their side of the

Rubella caution

There seems to be an epidemic of German measles (rubella) on the way, almost of the proportions of 1978/9. Catching German measles in early pregnancy can result in a range of handicaps in a woman's baby and in 1978/9 100 babies were born with congenital abnormalities associated with the disease.

Sir Henry Yellowlees, Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health, has written to all general practitioners warning them of the potential danger to women in the next few months and to check that any women patients likely to become pregnant soon are protected from the disease.

The advice should also go to the women themselves to have a blood test before they become pregnant to find out whether they require vaccination.

Only between 15 and 20 per cent of women are susceptible to German measles and so require vaccination. If they are vaccinated they should wait two months before becoming pregnant and under no circumstances should a pregnant woman be vaccinated.

Dr Ariwyn Griffith, deputy director of clinical research at the Wellcome Foundation says that although it has not been proved that the serum used in vaccination can damage the fetus it is not a hypothesis that can be tested deliberately. Women are also advised to have a check test even if they believe they

had German measles as a child. Diagnosis can be tricky and some cases of suspected childhood German measles turn out not to have been the disease at all.

Binge-beating

Binge-eating coupled with vomiting has been given considerable publicity over the last couple of years. Sufferers from this syndrome - called bulimia nervosa - go through bouts of over-eating and then counteract the effects by making themselves sick as often as four times a day.

Unlike people who suffer from anorexia nervosa, the syndrome is often undetected because this pattern of eating does not involve any dramatic weight changes. And it is only in the last couple of years that the scale of the problem has become apparent as sufferers themselves, alerted by the publicity, have realised they need medical help.

Until recently the most effective therapy has required long periods spent in hospital under the care of specially trained staff - which is both expensive and not widely available.

But Dr Hubert Lacey from the Department of Psychiatry at St George's Hospital, south London, has created a successful out-patient programme with 30 patients who were all chronic sufferers.

Writing recently in the *British Medical Journal*, Dr Lacey described the programme as a combination of group and individual therapy. Patients were required to follow a rigorous three-meals-a-day diet and had to keep a detailed diary of their eating habits over a ten-week period. After two years, 20 patients had not binged or vomited at all while eight had occasional episodes (two patients dropped out of the therapy). Dr Lacey believes that the success of the programme comes from the

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## GMTim

The Young Boy Network is alive and well at Bush House. The computer program with which the BBC's World Service last night made its psephological deductions was drawn up by 18-year-old Tim Havenhasty son of Greville Havenhead, deputy head of the service's talks and features department. Tim is described as "computer mad", surely a prerequisite for such a task, and has two sets of his own, one at home and one at college. He would enhance his value still further if he could predict the future of his father's employers.

## Greens, too

Hotellers' boasts should always be treated with scepticism, but when the Sheraton Park Tower in Knightsbridge says that until the small hours this morning it is catering for all political tastes, it is very near the truth. At its election night party (tickets £13.50) Tory voters could elect to vote with a potato filled with royal Beluga caviar (blue), while Labour's apologists could opt for a smoked salmon sandwich (pink). Alliance supporters were being identified by their consumption of port, although I would have thought claret more appropriate. The occasion was a Tory landslide, I am told, since the organizers included Suzanne Good-hew, former wife of Sir Victor, and Miss Yvonne Heseltine, sister of you-know-who.

## Winning ways

Is there no limit to the audacity of Paul Winner, Liberal Alliance candidate for Maidenhead and Windsor? Not only did he invade his way into Eton College to talk to staff and pupils yesterday, earlier this week he became the only candidate to breach the citadel of Windsor Castle to talk to 60 staff. Canvassing the mainly Conservative Knights of the Chapel Royal proved an uphill struggle, but his initiative so aroused the interest of the Queen, a non-voter admittedly, that she asked for a full report on his address.

## Manifestly false

My prize for the reader who has spotted the most unfulfillable election promise goes to Mr M. P. Niekirk of High Wycombe: he alerted me to Labour's manifesto pledge to repeal the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, which does not exist. He also tells me of an independent candidate in Dorset ("a very sane woman", he promises) who has been proposing that politicians should be made criminally liable for breach of election promises, with the courts able to impose fines or prison sentences. Some hope: the penal system would be stretched beyond endurance.



BARRY FANTONI  
"But if I give you a hundred quid, how can I be sure you'll spend it on a stolen exam paper?"

## Garden party

My campaign prize for the party with the most aptly named candidates would have gone to the Ecology Party, with Mrs Rose Bailie-Grohman (Putney) leading the field from candidates Marsh, Waters, Dykes, Cooper, Carter, Shepherd and Hopthrough. They went and wrecked it all with two candidates called Grimes, and another called Whitebread - of which I am sure they disapprove.

## Thinks...

Followers of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi spent yesterday trying to influence the result of the general election by meditation - an intervention not foreseen in the Representation of the People Act. The Maharishi believes that provided enough people meditate - the critical figure is the square root of one per cent of the population - the result will be a vote for "coherence". This in turn is a recipe for "growing creativity, optimism and productivity."

## No sooner had our new government...

No sooner had our new government put its various policies to bed this morning than the Friends of the Settlement Carliel Line, noting ruefully that "the cause of railways in this election has gone largely unused", were mobilising for battle over the future of that 72-mile length forming, as they claim, not only one of this country's most scenic railway journeys, but also an essential trunk line between the east Midlands, Yorkshire and Scotland. Its various listed viaducts, including the magnificent Ribbleshead so beloved of tourists and cognoscenti, could cost millions to repair, and closure has been mooted. Should soothing pre-election noises turn out to be just that, the promise-breakers will have the friends to answer to. They are so numerous that the Carlisle mountain Pullman is already booked to October.

# Still some flesh for City bidders

by Anthony Hilton

While the political debate of the past four weeks has focused the nation's attention on the kind of society it wants in the 1980s and 1990s, in the nuts and bolts heartland of British industry a similar monumental struggle has been taking place. Its outcome says as much about the way we as a nation have decided to run our companies as the election said about our society.

Being overshadowed by the campaign has, if anything, heightened the symbolism of the takeover battle for Thomas Tilling, one of our longest established companies. It was on the receiving end of the largest takeover offer ever attempted in this country, a £660m bid from BTR. It fought long and hard. It almost escaped. But at 4pm on Wednesday, a jubilant BTR claimed victory.

When the bid was launched a few weeks ago, almost no one knew anything about Tilling, what it did - other than it once ran buses - where it operated, who ran it, or what it controlled. It might have been a branch of the civil service. It certainly shared with the civil service a passionate belief in secrecy.

The bidder, in contrast, is a man of our times. Mr Owen Green had piloted BTR onward and upward as if there were no recession, and he did so not by moving into glamour businesses such as computers, but taking on board some of the least fashionable bits of British engineering and making them pay, by tough financial control and simple good management.

What transformed this battle from many similar of the past decade was Tilling's decision to take a leaf from the politicians' book and steal the bidder's clothes. It

forecast a big increase in profits, promised hard decisions in the pursuit of efficiency and even agreed to sell off two of its best businesses, Cornhill, the insurance company, and Intermed, an American medical products group. Everything BTR suggested, Tilling adopted as its own, quite brazenly abandoning its style and traditions to preserve its independence.

In deciding which side to support it was no longer an issue of style and ability, management had become whether you preferred Mr Owen Green or his clone. It was not made any easier, for the more that Tilling cast off its old values, the louder it asked that the firm managers retain theirs.

For much of the time shareholders kept below the parapet, and with good reason, for the battle claimed many casualties. Lord Cockfield, the Trade Minister, decided, astonishingly, that Britain's largest-ever industrial merger did not warrant examination by the Monopolies Commission, in contrast to a decision taken that same week that the sale of Sotheby's to two Americans was a matter of such supreme national interest that it demanded an inquiry. These rulings more than any other served to underline the inconsistency and disarray which characterized the Government's merger policy, and probably has ensured that laying out clear ground rules will be a major priority for the new administration.

The Sotheby's decision had another curious side-effect. Just as the bid was launched, Tilling delivered a stinging public rebuff to its long-standing financial adviser, Schroder Wegg. It was replaced by S. G. Warburg, whom Tilling considered more

skilled in these martial arts. Warburg was also adviser to Sotheby's, and when that deal went for examination, the bank was able to devote all its resources to the Tilling battle.

The effect was remarkable, with Warburg surprising even its normally imperturbable banking rivals with the vigour with which it plunged into battle and its willingness to stake its prestige on the outcome. The other side, Morgan Grenfell, responded in kind, persuading BTR to adopt the astonishingly high-risk strategy of buying, with almost £200m of hard cash, about 30 per cent of Tilling through the stockmarket.

Morgan Grenfell and Warburg have been eyeing each other across the City for years. No one disputed that in the high-profile, high-risk game of takeover chess they were the experts, but the relish with which they squared up to each other to settle who was grandmaster brought a further dimension to the battle.

It meant really that questions of industrial logic, managerial efficiency, rationalization, exports, employment - in short all the real down-to-earth things which are affected by takeovers - received virtually no airing. Instead, the future shape of a significant chunk of British industry was little more than a battle of wills, and skills, of the advisers.

That was the battle Morgan Grenfell won on Wednesday. But its real prize is not the £1m or so it can expect to pick up in fees but rather the prestige and positioning which comes with the victory. For there is still much reshaping to be done on the skeleton of British industry.

# When a landslide is better than a cliff-hanger

by Robert Blake

During the last 60 years there have been three general elections in which the Conservatives won more than 400 seats: 1924, 1931 and 1935. Their majorities over all other parties combined were respectively 223, 331 and 249. Since 1945 they have only once had a three-figure majority, exactly 100 in 1959. For whatever reason, parliamentary majorities have usually been lower since the Second World War than in the inter-war years.

Are there any particular problems likely to affect prime ministers with very large majorities? Historical experience does not suggest any obvious difficulties, though it has certainly been the case that victors have occasionally expressed misgivings. Neville Chamberlain wrote to his sister on the morning of Baldwin's triumph in 1935: "What alarms me now is the size of our majority, which is most dangerous. Unless we leave our mark as social reformers the country will take it out of us hereafter, but what we do will depend on how the Cabinet is made up." Austen Chamberlain wrote similarly to Baldwin: "I am a little dazed... so large a majority creates dangers of its own. I have one clear conviction which you will share. Reaction will be fatal".

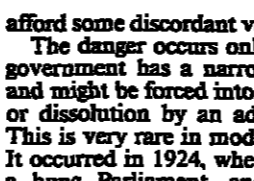
In the aftermath of the 1931 election, Tom Jones, former Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, wrote: "Here is a parliamentary dictatorship and the Tory wolves will howl for high tariffs and give Baldwin hell", while Baldwin himself said: "The workers have put their trust in the National Government. We must not fail them. The magnitude of the Labour defeat makes it all the more imperative that we should be faithful to our trust".

Whether Mr Macmillan expressed comparable unease in 1959 is not known, but he did observe in his diary that he believed the Liberals had taken more votes from the Socialists than from us. This may prove important. The great thing is

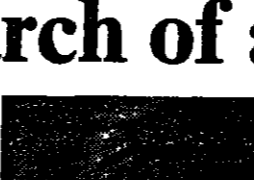
to keep the Tory Party on modern and progressive lines". It is, however, far from clear just what anxieties and difficulties a party with a very large majority may encounter. On the face of things, the misgivings expressed by Mr Francis Pym, if correctly reported, are puzzling, to say the least. It is not at all obvious from past examples that a big Conservative majority has caused any notable difficulties about policy or party management, as contrasted with a small or marginal win. In fact the Conservatives might be regarded as lucky in not having had to conduct a real cliff-hanger government, unlike Labour in 1950-51, 1964, 1974 and during the last years of Mr Callaghan's regime. The difficulties in that sort of situation are clear enough.

Conservative majorities have varied from Churchill's narrow win in 1951 to Mr Macmillan's notable victory in 1959. Both governments had their problems but it is not easy to connect these with the size of their majorities. Eden, who succeeded Churchill in 1955, went to this country and indeed his majority, Lord Home, who succeeded Mr Macmillan, lost narrowly in 1964. Political scientists and psephologists would be hard put to it to deduce any conclusion from these facts, any more than from earlier events. The 1924 Conservative victory was followed by marginal defeat in 1929. The 1931 victory was followed by a conclusive though a smaller win in 1935.

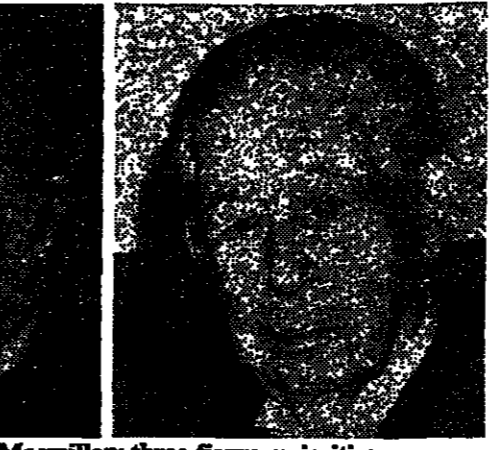
What the doubters about a big majority seem to have in mind is either the danger that the moderates will be overpowered by the extremists or the overlapping danger that the Whips will be unable to preserve discipline when backbenchers can indulge in the luxury of dissent without fear of bringing down the government. To the latter threat the obvious answer is that if dissent presents no threat to the existence of the government, why fuss about it? A party with a large majority can afford some discordant voices.



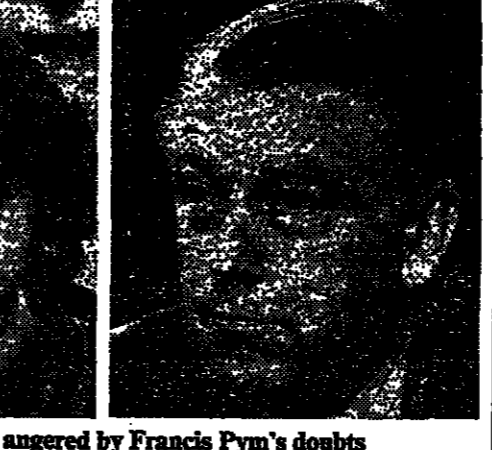
Mrs Thatcher, angered by Francis Pym's doubts



Baldwin and Macmillan: three-figure majorities



Mrs Thatcher, angered by Francis Pym's doubts



Baldwin and Macmillan: three-figure majorities

or 1935 - certainly not that of 1959. The most that might happen is a free vote in favour of capital punishment, but the House of Lords would probably kill it so far as legislation is concerned during this Parliament. Mrs Thatcher in general leads the party not from the "right", whatever that might mean, but from a position which might be described as traditional Conservative centrism. The vast majority of the new intake of Tory MPs have not got in by being more "right-wing" than the Prime Minister but because they have vigorously supported her and her policies, above all those concerning nuclear weapons, the EEC and the economy. They are most unlikely to rebel against a prime minister to whom they owe their success.

Mrs Thatcher may have many problems to solve, but a big majority is unlikely to be one of them. Lord Blake is Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford.

# Argentina in search of a saviour

Buenos Aires Argentina's electoral campaign started long before Britain's and is still going on. The party political battle started rolling in July last year in the midst of the trauma of defeat in the Falklands and the collapse of General Leopoldo Galtieri's military regime. The transitional widow and former president, Isabel.

Two of the candidates, Señor Angel Robledo and Señor Raul Matere, describe themselves as "anti-verticalists". Verticalism in Peronist jargon means absolute respect for the dictates of the leader. Both insist that the movement must now begin to function on the basis of internal democracy.

Señor Robledo defines himself as a moderate, and has the support of the so-called "soft" wing of the Peronist labour movement. Señor Antonio Cañero, who is informally supported by the hard-line trade unionists, is more of a verticalist, although he too insists on the value of internal democracy. Finally, perhaps the strongest candidate is Señor Italo Luder, a former Senate leader and provisional president who has deliberately kept clear of hard and fast alliances to be able to present himself as the symbol of unity.

The key political question for a movement which has harboured figures from the extreme right to the extreme left, is what kind of Peronism? At the moment there are four main Peronist candidates for presidential nomination, and one crucial question living in exile in Madrid: the general's widow and former president, Isabel.

The Peronist party congress is due to meet in August. Unlike the Radical Party, selection of the candidate is indirect, and congress delegates are not theoretically bound by mandates. This increases the chance of some last-minute horse-trading. A key figure in this is Señor Lorenzo Miguel, an engineering workers' trade union leader on the right who has always tried to place himself at the centre of the union political machine. Señor Isabel Peron, or just "La Señora", is also a key actor.

While most of the Peronist candidates are not willing to say so publicly, all hope for La Señora's blessing. As the political heir to Peron her endorsement is vitally important. One sector of the movement has begun to campaign for her to stand for nomination, and few of the other candidates would relish speaking out against her. They hope, instead, that she will settle for something like the presidency of the party.

conservative party machine. Señor Alfonsín is a left of centre figure who is close to European social democratic thinking.

Left-wing parties are not expected to do particularly well in the polls, but are worth watching. The Argentine Communist Party in particular is growing in strength, and has modified its traditional anti-Peronist line, while other small Trotskyist groupings are beginning to make an important impact in the union movement.

Argentina's centre-right parties, fragmented and weak, have never been able to break out of the political ghetto they fell into after the rise of Peronism. Right-wing governments have always been military ones, and have been almost universally condemned at the end of their administrations, so right-wing politicians have never had a good image. The strongest figure among them is Señor Francisco Manrique of the Federal Party.

# Roderick MacFarquhar Hongkong: a deal to suit both sides

Hongkong has not been an election issue but it may well be one of the first problems to land on the new Foreign Secretary's desk. This month China is expected to unveil its own plan for the colony's future - a plan which excludes any British role in administering Hongkong after 1997 when Britain's lease on the New Territories area runs out.

High-handed unilateralism, by China could derail negotiations with Britain, which are fitfully proceeding in Peking, and could also set off a run of nerves - and a run on the dollar - in Hongkong.

The next British government must not make the mistake of assuming that the Chinese are so desperate to preserve a golden goose in Hongkong that they would compromise on their claim to sovereignty. The point is that in the short term Peking would be richer, not poorer, if it incorporated Hongkong. China today earns nearly 40 per cent of its foreign exchange - some £7 billion a year - from selling goods to and through the colony. If it swallowed up Hongkong, these gains would go and the overall trading profits of this booming enclave might well decline disastrously. But all the surviving profits would be credited to China.

Economists calculate that even a 70 per cent drop in Hongkong's trade would still leave China with higher foreign exchange earnings from the territory than it gets today.

The Chinese, however, do have a powerful non-financial incentive for seeking a solution for Hongkong. The most important audience watching the negotiations with Britain are the people of Formosa. China's long-stranded island province, Brings Formosa back into the Chinese fold is a more potent nationalist goal for China even than reabsorbing Hongkong. But this goal will remain remote unless Hongkong provides a peaceful precedent that would overcome Formosan fears of autonomy, Peking-style.

For Britain, the aim of the negotiations with China should be a formula which might be called "liberty without sovereignty". It would be a waste of time to try to persuade China to allow British rule over Victoria Island and Kowloon after 1997. Britain has a legal, but not practical case for holding on to an economically unviable rump colony. It might be worth bargaining for retaining links to London through the courts - though the Chinese would almost certainly argue that there is ample time over the next 14 years for Hongkong to learn to operate its own legal system unaided. Britain's main tasks, therefore, are to secure real autonomous powers for a Hongkong government and to obtain the most effective possible Chinese and international underwriting for the new arrangement.

Hongkong would have to keep its own currency, freely convertible as today (except with China's jennip), and exclusive control over its financial reserves. It would also

need its own security forces. All these would be run by a Hongkong civil service which would be responsible to an elected council headed by an elected chief executive.

A truly autonomous Hongkong would operate as an economic agent on the international scene as it does today, its new Chinese connexion hindering it no more than its British one. This degree of independence could benefit China as well, for Peking should be just as eager as Hongkong to keep, for example, a separate textile quota for the former colony under the multi-fibre arrangements.

The wealth of an autonomous Hongkong would inevitably be a tempting target for foreign finance ministers. Peking might ask the territory to pay an annual tax, a percentage of an appropriate economic indicator whose rate would be fixed for, say, 30 years in advance (an approach familiar to the Chinese). For such a system to have any hope of retaining the confidence of Hongkong citizens and overseas investors, the Chinese would have to demonstrate that the promised autonomy would be profoundly different from the mythical autonomy of Tibet and inner Mongolia.

To do this, the Chinese would have to consider the following: A reduction in the status of the Bank of China and New China News Agency representation in Hongkong to ally suspicions that Peking wanted to rule it through a thinly disguised pro-consul; no branch of the Chinese communist party to be permitted in Hongkong, a point of particular importance to the Formosans; all major transactions between Hongkong and China to be conducted between a Hongkong commissioner resident in Peking and the office of the Chinese premier; the Chinese premier to be the only Chinese minister to visit Hongkong on an official basis; Hongkong to appoint delegates to the Chinese National People's Congress but without voting rights; local problems to be handled by a committee of Hongkong and Kwangtung provincial authorities; Hongkong residents to hold a special category of Hongkong Chinese citizenship, entitling them to free movement in and out of the territory.

Any scheme of this sort will have the same fundamental flaw: the absence of an ultimate guarantee. But the Chinese have been meticulous in sticking to the letter of international law. In the case of Hongkong they have adhered to a law they do not even recognize - the "unequal" treaties which gave Britain its lease and freedom.

China has already acknowledged its own interest in Hongkong's prosperity in the most tangible way - by investing millions there. Now it needs to accept that the biggest loser from a crisis of confidence in the colony will not be the colonial power, but China itself. This could be the beginning of a better dialogue on sovereignty for China - and liberty for Hongkong.

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# Philip Howard A toast, to kin and country

Take them for all in all, the Howards are an awkward lot: cussed, pig-headed, bloody-minded, ambitious, restless. The safest thing to do with them is to lock them up in the Tower of London, and, in extreme circumstances, shut them up for good on Tower Green. Nevertheless, you have to admit that the family has been making a nuisance of itself in the high places of the kingdom for longer than such arriviste Johnnys - come-lately as the Wintertonsms or the Mountbattens, whose origins are lost in the mists of the nineteenth century.

This year we are celebrating the five hundredth anniversary of the family's first major title. In 1483 Sir John Howard, the eminent Yorkist, was created Earl Marshal of England and Duke of Norfolk, his son and heir being at the same time created Earl of Surrey. They did not enjoy their honours for long. Two years later John was killed at Bosworth Field, and subsequently attainted, just make sure, and his son Thomas was also attainted and hanged in the Tower. But we came back.

To celebrate the anniversary we are having a little party on June 28. It is being held in the "Pines" where probably for the first time in history Howards will outnumber the warty ers appointed to stop them getting out. The eleventh Duke proposed to have a grand reunion of Howards in 1815 to celebrate the six hundredth anniversary of Magna Carta. But when he discovered how many thousands of hungry Howards were intended to turn out, and how much it was going to cost, the idea was dropped.

This June's reunion is being organized by Miles, one of the Fitzalan papist Howards. By Howard standards it is a modest little affair: about 250 of his own immediate relations; the service in St Peter ad Vincula will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Cardinal Hume, Cardinal Bruno Heim, and other clergy, led by the Bishop of London, Dean of the Chapel Royal, who takes precedence (after the Howards, that is), because this is a Royal Peculiar.

After the service we are going to a pause by Tower Green to remember members of the family such as Thomas More, Anne Boleyn, Katharine Howard, Saint Philip Howard, and others of the lads who received their last promotion in the Tower. The deputy governor has given permission for a photograph of the assembled Howards to be taken from the Beauchamp Tower, where so many of the family did time. He does not want the picture published in the newspapers, how-

ever, presumably because the spectacle of so many Howards mustered together might revive troubled old memories.

We shall then push on to the Fishmongers' Hall for a little dinner. The Duke's brothers and sisters (omitting handles), Michael, Martin, Mark, Marielgold, Mirams, Miranda, and Mirabel (their parents got stuck on the letter "M" when naming children) will sit at the head of a table. The Penrith lot, and the Suffolks, and all the Howards will turn out from around the country, and try not to start fighting each other.

David Frost, a recent acquisition by the family, will be of the company. We shall drink the health of the Queen, and then the health of the Howards (which has several times, but not always, been the same thing). And I dare say that we shall send Her Majesty a telegram affirming the loyalty of the Howards, just in case she gets the wrong ideas about the gathering.

Miles will say a few words. Normally when a Howard says that, sit back and resign yourself to a speech of 45 minutes. I remember a speaker winding his weary way towards a cantankerous conclusion once with the words, "I cannot bring my remarks to a conclusion...". He intended to go on and on, saying something uncharitable about somebody or other." But he was interrupted and silenced (temporarily) by a wonderfully urbane drawl of "Pity" from the high table.

When Miles says he will say a few words, he means a few words. He is one of those rare birds, a mild and modest Howard. Nobody would have mistaken him for one of your ruthless, power-mad, ET, words who he bumbled into Rupert Murdoch's great word factory the other day, looking like an absent-minded professor. His looks did not deceive. Ten minutes later there was a frantic telephone call from the College of Arms explaining that the Earl Marshal had left behind him his wallet, his diary, and his private papers. How was he going to pay for his taxi, they wondered.

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### VOICES ACROSS THE VOID

From considering the impact of nuclear weapons upon the election, we can now turn to the effect of the election on the weapons. The tables have been turned, and in more ways than one. Yesterday's poll was the second of three being held, as if according to some divine constitution, in the European nations most deeply involved in accepting the new American missiles, West German, Britain and Italy. Their relevance to the issue might be assessed in that descending order of importance.

In Bonn three months ago the Soviet Union clearly put its cross alongside Herr Vogel and the SPD - and in effect lost its deposit. Its approach to the British poll has been less visible, but the message it must have received has been similar. The campaign itself failed to elicit any substantial opposition to the Nato plan. Even the extramural calls for "Ban the Bomb" and "Yanks go home" have been comparatively muted. People might not feel much enthusiasm for the missiles - but they have displayed no great antagonism to them either. At worst the result must be counted by the Western allies as a kind of negative-plus.

The Americans have always believed that only the fear of the planned Pershing-2 and cruise missile deployment would prompt Soviet movement at the links on Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF). It follows that signs of uncertainty in the Western camp will slow down that movement to a standstill. Experience so far has borne out these assumptions.

President Reagan has now moved away publicly from the zero-option - which privately never looked like more than an unattainable, opening demand. The Russians have already changed their negotiating position several times since the talks began. Their insistence upon counting the French and British strategic systems in the INF equation looks now like the biggest obstacle ahead.

But the date for deploying the

American missiles is now only six months away and components for the first 96 missiles at Greenham Common have already started to arrive. Given the firmness of the Mitterand government - admittedly not enjoying its finest hour - and the end of uncertainty in Britain, the prospect of a further advance at Geneva has significantly improved.

Whether such movement is likely before or after the Italian elections is a matter for speculation. In Rome too the signs are that the electorate will have other things on its mind and that the nuclear debate is unlikely to generate any heat until the Autumn. As the Russians too see December as a kind of first-edition deadline - can they risk waiting that long?

There are similar indications of "flexibility" in those other Geneva negotiations, the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START). The word arose almost like a slogan through the technical detail of President Reagan's announcement two days ago. If there is any transatlantic linkage in these matters, Mrs Thatcher must have welcomed the timing, coming as it did on the eve of polling day. Nor might it be unduly cynical to suppose that the White House would like to get things moving in time for, at least some discernible progress before the next presidential campaign.

Given United States concern over the vulnerability of its land-based missiles to a disarming first strike, the original START proposals were shrewdly targeted. Like the zero option however they lacked credibility, - except as the basis for a haggle. At some point, it was clear, the Americans would have to move away from them towards a package which, while aimed in a similar direction, was more realistic.

President Reagan thankfully did not waste too much time on polemics. Even so, one can legitimately question the wisdom

of these bursts of transatlantic "megaphone diplomacy" - to use Lord Carrington's recent epithet. There is a perception that if one does not make one's offers public, one loses the so-called propaganda war. But open government, for all its other attractions, is not necessarily the best way forward in negotiations of such complexity and importance.

One wonders too whether there is not room for another negotiating tier, between that of the Geneva talks themselves and that of presidential summity. The construction of more diplomatic machinery is not necessarily the answer to anything - indeed the reverse is often true. But there would seem to be an argument for structured meetings on arms control at foreign minister level, between the powers concerned. At present the gap between the negotiating table and the rare prospect of a summit is arguably too wide and needs to be filled.

A wise man is said to hope for the best but prepare for the worst. That is the theory which underlies the twin policies of arms control and arms accumulation. There is little enough cause to depart from it. But events so far this year have given more grounds for hope than we have had for some time. There are even some optimistic sounds arising from that other long-running Geneva saga, the Committee of Disarmament talks on chemical weapons, which resume on Monday.

But public bewilderment over the issues, and electoral acquiescence over the broad direction of Western policy should not be too casually accepted. Concern over the level of our nuclear threshold is still evident among people who, by no stretch of the imagination, could be dismissed as politically motivated or naive. Those who lead Nato should not squander the mandate they are now being given. We must hear more voices across the void of nuclear mistrust between east and west.

### GUNS BEFORE BUTTER

In the past decade the United States Administration has supplied more than half of all Soviet grain imports, and Moscow has now accepted a US offer to negotiate a new long-term grain agreement. Alternative sources such as Canada and Argentina will be used by the Soviet side to drive a hard bargain, especially in view of the pressure from US farming interests wishing to increase exports. But Washington is in a strong position. Soviet expectations of a better harvest this year owe more to the mild winter than to the success of the Politburo's reorganization of agriculture.

There has been virtually no progress in food production per head of population since 1977: grain, potatoes, meat and dairy products actually show a decline, and reports of rationing have been increased. Food imports have been so urgently required that the USSR has been prepared to spend more than a third of the scarce hard currency allocated to imports from non-socialist countries on increasing food supplies.

There were lengthy speeches at an April conference of the party Central Committee devoted to the problems of agriculture. Mr Andropov and Mr Gorbachev, who is in charge of agriculture, appealed for better labour discipline and management, increased mechanization and higher labour productivity, without, however, indicating pre-

cisely how these goals were to be achieved. Agriculture continues to swallow more than a quarter of total investment, compared with less than five per cent in the USA. Yet even by official Soviet statistics labour productivity in agriculture is only about a fifth of the US level.

Ideology still takes priority over practical farming experience. Peasants and even some industrial workers have small plots allocated by the state to produce food for their families. Surpluses may be sold on the "private" market, where prices, which under Stalin were much the same as in state shops are now more than double for items in particular demand. This incentive has encouraged private plot production to such an extent that some three per cent of the arable land accounts for more than a quarter of total agricultural output. As part of the recent debate the Soviet newspaper *Trud* reported that in Kirov Province private plots amounted to only two per cent of the total cultivated area, but produced almost half the potato crop, sixty per cent of other vegetables and more than a quarter of meat and dairy products.

In the state and collective farms there is little direct incentive to improve output. Although some thirty per cent of the Soviet labour force is involved in agriculture, at har-

vest time thousands of school-children, students and factory workers have to abandon their normal employment to help in the fields. Pay depends less on actual harvest results than on fulfilling plan indicators, often by fooling the state inspectors.

There is a shortage of tractors, harvesters and other agricultural equipment, and machines that have been supplied often stand idle for lack of proper maintenance and spare parts. Poor roads, bad transport and inadequate storage result in shocking waste. Open trucks scattering fertilizers and grains to the winds are a common sight on the muddy roads of Russia.

Even when the grain reaches the bakeries the wastage continues. For political reasons the Soviet Government continues to subsidize bread prices, and a loaf now costs very little in comparison with other foods. Every year thousands of tons of perfectly edible bread are simply thrown away in order to have fresh bread at every meal. Even worse is the illegal but widespread use of bread to feed private livestock, because state bread is more widely and cheaply available than feed grain. Earlier this year an article in the main ideological journal *Kommunist* broached yet again the delicate subject of raising bread prices to an economic level. It is still very much a case of guns before butter in the Soviet Union.

### Money lending

**From Mr D. C. Doughty**  
Sir, My daughter and her husband recently purchased their first home. During the sale negotiations the vendor of the house asked, through his solicitor, whether we would agree to his using our deposit to finance his own house purchase. We were alarmed at the request, but we really had no option. There was an implied threat we would lose the house if we did not agree. In the event, all went well, but we all had an anxious few days.

situation, to put it mildly. I am most surprised that the Law Society permits this practice.

Yours faithfully,  
**DOUGLAS C. DOUGHTY,**  
11 King George Avenue,  
Bursley,  
Walsford,  
Hertfordshire.  
May 26.

### Waterway usage

**From Mr John Dodwell**  
Sir, With reference to your report June 2 about the enlarged South Yorkshire Waterway, it is very disconcerting to see your Transport Editor, despite his years of experience, making an elementary error by stating, "Unfortunately, canals are even more remote than railways from the high street shops, computer centres" and thus implying that there is little hope for increasing barge traffic.

Few high street shops or computer centres need goods of the sort and in the volume suitable for barges. Far better traffics are coal, oil, grain and other bulk goods, particularly those for export or import. Examples of recent new traffics are sand carried from Nottinghamshire to Yorkshire for glass works and effluent carried to the ports for disposal at sea.

Motorway development has shown that industry can be attracted to locations with good transport

facilities. There is no reason why the same should not apply to modernised canals and rivers, particularly if the local planning authority encourages it, as in the case in South Yorkshire, where the council has provided part of the finance for the improvements to 700 tonnes barge capacity.

Yours faithfully,  
**JOHN DODWELL,**  
8 Burnside,  
Hertford,  
Hertfordshire.  
June 2.

### Fair Fares

**From Mr A. Patrick Fordyce**  
Sir, On the day when People Express announced that I may fly the Atlantic for \$99 I learned that to fly the short hop from Glasgow across the Pentland Firth to visit my family in Shetland I must pay British Airways \$98.

I need scarcely record the arithmetic of comparative mileage and flying time. When is something going to be done about British Airways grossly excessive charges for certain inland routes?

Yours faithfully,  
**A. PATRICK FORDYCE,**  
14 Braemar Crescent,  
Bensden,  
Glasgow.  
May 31.

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14 Braemar Crescent,  
Bensden,  
Glasgow.  
May 31.

### No soft options on unemployment

**From Mr Geoffrey Tucker**  
Sir, Throughout a campaign in which unemployment has been seen as the most important national problem, Mrs Thatcher deserves the highest praise for neither offering any solutions nor taking soft options.

She always took the long-term view. Certainly her policies of reducing inflation and taxes and restoring the spirit of individual enterprise are fundamental to our future prosperity - never more than at this time. For the unprecedented pace of technological advance is bringing with it colossal changes in the pattern of work.

Even in the United States, hopes that economic recovery would dent the heavy unemployment have been taken a beating. The powerful Business Council has pointed out that in order to be competitive firms must rely increasingly on automation rather than re-employing labour. The choice, they claimed, was either protecting jobs or protecting businesses.

Mrs Thatcher must have our total support in ensuring that Britain, too, can be competitively successful with the best in the world. At the same time, it would seem that the more successful we are technologically the fewer people we shall need to create our industrial wealth. *Fortune* magazine call this the New Unemployment.

If this is what is truly happening then by far the most realistic and humane thing for the Conservative Party to do is to conceive policies to ease the transition where possible and to help organize a future working society that is both stable and civilized. This is a problem that goes far beyond the scope of any one of the major departments. It needs a Churchillian solution: an "overlord" without departmental responsibilities who can be the guide, coordinator and spokesman for the whole Government in this vital area.

May I suggest that Mrs Thatcher should call upon a wise elder statesman to tackle this formidable task with vigour and understanding?

Yours faithfully,  
**GEORGE TUCKER,**  
47 Essex Street, WC2.  
June 7.

### Locked churches

**From Miss Susan Wiggins**  
Sir, Can something be done to keep our churches open, so that those in need of solitary peace and consolation may benefit? After visiting my terminally ill mother I felt a strong need to enter the nearby church at Finchampstead, only to find all entrances locked. The gardener, tending the immaculately maintained grounds, advised this was due to past vandalism.

Surely the value of any church, particularly of an old and beautiful church filled with the atmosphere of centuries of worship, is as much in individual and lonely communication with God as in prescribed services on Sunday. The loss, if all our churches eventually become locked against us, will be immeasurable.

Yours faithfully,  
**SUSAN WIGGINS,**  
37 Holland Gardens,  
Fleet,  
Hampshire.  
June 3.

### PLR injustice

**From Miss Dottie Smith**  
Sir, Some years ago I wrote a book and called it *The Hundred and One Dalmatians*. It was illustrated (beautifully) by twin sisters and by agreement with them I own the copyright in the drawings. Also, one of the sisters has since died.

Because of this sad fact, under the rules of the Public Lending Right Act, it appears that the book is not eligible for PLR and therefore neither I, the remaining twin, nor our respective estates will benefit from any borrowings from public libraries.

Can anyone explain to me, please, what logic or justice there is in this regulation?

Yours doggedly,  
**DOTTIE SMITH,**  
The Barretts,  
Finchingfield,  
Essex.  
May 24.

### Where the heart is

**From Mrs Hal Dixon**  
Sir, Mr Cooke-Yarborough has given an impressive list of dilemmas, in today's *Times* (June 7) concerning his location at Longworth, Oxfordshire. Were he a Girl Guide he could have added another.

He lives in the Anglia region of the association, where, I am happy to say, Oxford and Cambridge play for the same team.

Yours faithfully,  
**HEATHER M. DIXON,**  
21 Trumpington Road,  
Cambridge.  
June 7.

### Educational values

**From Dr John Miller**  
Sir, It seems from your leader of May 28 that the universities can do nothing right. While parts of it were thoughtful and constructive, much appeared tendentious and unfair - far from retreating into their specialisms, many academics are still wrestling with the practical problems of reorganization created by the cuts.

After this Government's emphasis on functional, practical subjects (which implies a large measure of specialization) you call for broader, less specialized degree courses. This proposal seems to me to rest on two dubious assumptions. First, it equates "education" with "formal education", yet surely much of one's knowledge and understanding of the world is acquired from books, the

### Divorce and re-marriage in church

**From the Reverend Maurice E. Bartlett**  
Sir, Thank you for Penny Perriek's balanced article on re-marriage in today's *Times* (June 3). I welcome the option she poses in her last two sentences: that the Church of England should be prepared to marry anyone who wants to be married in church.

Unless the C of E is prepared to tighten its present practice (and the law) by scrutinising the Christian culture and merit of first marriages and thereafter to marry only those couples who have clear Christian commitment, it will be more consistent, more in touch with people and more in tune with the Gospel if it marries all couples who wish to marry.

What the Church must not do is attempt to inquire and judge whether a divorced person is suitable to marry in church. The only proper inquiry is whether the parties to a proposed marriage are free to marry. Also the idea that, following an inquiry, some kind of statement should be made before a second marriage is obnoxious. A marriage is a marriage and must not be diminished in any way by description or inference as a second attempt at it.

If the Christian Gospel is about anything, it is about re-creation, new beginnings and new life. The past must stay in the past.

In my view the present discipline of the Church of England is inappropriate because it is inconsistent with the Gospel. Let us change our discipline and marry all who come to us for marriage but not go to any middle position and save consciences by an unwelcome process of inquiry and judgment.

Yours faithfully,  
**MAURICE BARTLETT,**  
The Priory Vicarage,  
Priory Close, Lancaster.

### Nursing care

**From Miss Gillian Sanford**  
Sir, Much has been made by the Conservative Government of its commitment to the NHS, as demonstrated by, for example, the growth in nursing staff in the NHS during their period of office - a claimed increase of 56,000.

Let your readers take this figure at its face value and assume it represents a substantial contribution to improving standards of nursing care in the NHS, it should be made clear that half this increase in nursing manpower was necessary to provide the additional cover required when the nurses' working week was reduced from 40 to 37½ hours in 1981.

Moreover, the rising proportion of elderly people in the population, coupled with reductions both in the number of hospital beds and in the average length of patient stay, have significantly increased nursing workloads in hospitals and the community.

The Government's own Department of Health and Social Security acknowledge the impact of such factors in *Health Care and Its Costs*, published less than three months ago:

The number of hospital medical, nursing and professional and technical staff determined by the numbers of patients treated, the nature and complexity of the treatment they receive, the extent to which age or infirmity affects patient needs for nursing care, and - particularly in long-stay hospitals - by the standards of nursing care provided. The evidence is that since 1976, taking the country overall, the increase in these staff has generally been justified by these factors (my italics).

The information we have received from our members indicates that apart from the extra nurses required to accommodate the reduction in the working week, increases in hospital and community nursing staff have only been permitted where an expansion in the service they provide has been proved to be justified.

The Conservative Party should not have claimed as a virtue what was demanded by necessity.

Yours faithfully,  
**GILLIAN SANFORD,**  
Deputy General Secretary,  
Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom,  
20 Cavendish Square, W1.  
June 7.

### Military degree

**From Dr John Childs**  
Sir, The remarks of the Duke of Edinburgh (*The Times*, June 3) advocating degrees in military science for reserve Service officers and young officers. The ability and talent there, it needs to be organized and centralised.

There is nothing militaristic in this suggestion. Far from it. Possible solutions to the dilemma of defence will only come through education and understanding.

Yours faithfully,  
**JOHN CHILDS,**  
School of History,  
The University,  
Leeds.

### Blacking out

**From Dr W. A. Munford**  
Sir, The real motivations of bygone municipal library committees are never easy to assess. As a library historian, however, I have come to the conclusion that it is frequently a mistake to assume that their members were necessarily less intelligent and more prejudiced than their present-day successors.

The once frequent - Victorian and early twentieth-century - decision to "black out" racing news was often taken locally for administrative rather than for censorship reasons. The betting fraternity of the time, by reason of their numbers

### Protection of the miner's pension

**From the Chairman of the London Electricity Consultative Council**  
Sir, Your editorial, "Pension fund politics," June 2, described the way in which the Labour Party proposes to fund industrial investment by direction of pension funds and provide representation by trade-union trustees.

You stated that the NCB/miners' pension fund, of which Mr Scargill and his union colleagues comprise half the trustees, provides a model of what would happen. You concluded that the fund will suffer, as will the wellbeing of the miners' pensions.

While the fund may suffer, the pensioners will not. Most, if not all, nationalised industry and local government pensions provide de facto guaranteed terms that are effectively index-linked, often by reference to Civil Service increases. The deficit between the funds financed and the pensions paid is borne either by consumers in the case of industries like electricity, which do not receive Exchequer subsidies, or by the taxpayer in the case of those like the Coal Board, which do receive subsidies.

There is therefore virtually no link between the performance of the trustees and fund managers and the benefit pensioners receive. From a political or union point of view the beauty of the proposed scheme is that it provides control without responsibility by means of a hidden tax upon consumers or the taxpayer.

Yours faithfully,  
**ALEX HENNEY,** Chairman,  
London Electricity Consultative Council,  
Newspaper House,  
8 Great New Street, EC4.  
June 3.

### The Denver Boot

**From Mr David C. de Boynville**  
Sir, Miss Rainey (June 1) may like to know that young Americans have also tried to thwart the "Denver Boot" by the very simple expedient of purchasing their own boot. This can then be applied to one's car when parked in a no-parking zone and the passing traffic warned - it is, or was, to be hoped - would simply believe that a colleague had booted the offending car and leave it in peace.

The word "was" has to be used, because the authorities, at any rate in the Washington, DC area, made provision of a boot by anyone night in the police business illegal. But it was a good idea while it lasted, which was not very long.

Another interesting experiment tried in this area involved a new, highway into the city's centre, which had inside lanes specially reserved for car-poolers, i.e. those with office colleagues, but there had to be no fewer than four occupants per car.

Americans love acronyms and this plan is called High Occupancy Vehicles-4 (or HOV-4). It was not long before those wishing to use the fast lanes, but without friends or colleagues, resorted to using tailors' dummies as stand, or sit-ins.

This too - alas - was declared illegal and eagle-eyed traffic cops now distinguish between the early-morning commuter who feels like an inanimate mannequin and the rest - or imitation - one.

How much simpler everything must have been prior to the coming of the combustion engine.

Yours sincerely,  
**DAVID C. DE BOYNVILLE,**  
3927 Prospect Street,  
Kensington,  
Maryland, USA.  
June 3.

### Rampant rape

**From Mrs Margaret Kenney**  
Sir, In a land where there is no springtime sun, one would expect unusual rejoicing at nature's golden springtime gifts: daffodils, forsythia and, yes, even oilseed rape. However, a narrow vision of the British beat (May 30), how wise the British be!

Yours faithfully,  
**MARGARET KENNEY,**  
31a Grange Road,  
Cambridge.  
May 30.

### On a clear day

**From Colonel G. M. L. Claridge**  
Sir, The super-refraction which permitted Mr T. D. Butler (June 4) to see the Western Alps well beyond the line of sight from the Senio was quite common over the sea and the Po valley. I had observed the temperature inversions which give rise to it while on signal reconnaissance flights from the North Adriatic across to the Gulf of Genoa.

During that winter the snow-clad Gargano mountains on the spur of Italy could be seen rose-pink in the sunrise from Mount Cosero outside Ancona.

The same inversions enabled me to establish the only regular interception of German multi-channel telephone and teleprinter transmissions at decimetre wave-lengths for distances up to 250 miles, well beyond radio "line of sight".

Yours faithfully,  
**GEORFFREY CLARIDGE,**  
Netherwood,  
Dormans Park,  
East Grinstead,  
West Sussex.  
June 6.

### From Dr Stephen Coffin

**From Dr Stephen Coffin**  
Sir, As sung in the music hall in my youth:  
With a ladder and some planks  
You could see to 'ackney Marston,  
If it wasn't for the 'oases in between.  
Yours faithfully,  
**STEPHEN COFFIN,**  
1 Marbeck Close,  
Winton,  
Berk.  
June

### Money lending

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Sir, Your editorial, "Pension fund politics," June 2, described the way in which the Labour Party proposes to fund industrial investment by direction of pension funds and provide representation by trade-union trustees.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE June 9. The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor, visited the University of Cambridge today.

ORTHINGTON PALACE June 9. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, today visited Duchy Property in South Glamorgan.

Mr N. J. Gill and Miss R. A. L. Thackeray. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Mrs R. A. Gill and the late Lieutenant-Colonel B. Gill of Caterham, Surrey, and Rosalind, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Thackeray, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

Mr N. S. Green and Miss H. E. Beard. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs B. T. Green, of Hyde Lea, Stafford, and Helen, younger daughter of the late Mr F. D. Beard and Mrs B. A. Beard, of Litleover, Derby.

Mr I. D. Lipscombe and Miss J. P. Page. The engagement is announced between Ian David, son of Mr and Mrs Roy C. Lipscombe, of South Woodford, Essex, and Janis Patricia, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Gilbert T. Fuge, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr Leonard Badham, 60; Mr W. G. Bagnall, 66; Mr Brinsley Ford, 75; Mr Justice Peter Gibson, 49; Mr Graham Carlston Green, 47; Sir William G. Harris, 71; Sir Arthur Hawkins, 70; Dr Polly Hill, 69; Mr Lionel Jeffries, 57; Mr Simon Jenkins, 40; Mr Frederick Lowe, 55; Mr Robert Maxwell, 60; Canon T. R. Milford, 88; Sir Geoffrey Otton, 56; Mr Laurence P. Scott, 74; Major-General Michael Walsh, 56; the Ven C. Witton-Davies, 70.

Mr Leonard Badham, 60; Mr W. G. Bagnall, 66; Mr Brinsley Ford, 75; Mr Justice Peter Gibson, 49; Mr Graham Carlston Green, 47; Sir William G. Harris, 71; Sir Arthur Hawkins, 70; Dr Polly Hill, 69; Mr Lionel Jeffries, 57; Mr Simon Jenkins, 40; Mr Frederick Lowe, 55; Mr Robert Maxwell, 60; Canon T. R. Milford, 88; Sir Geoffrey Otton, 56; Mr Laurence P. Scott, 74; Major-General Michael Walsh, 56; the Ven C. Witton-Davies, 70.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of the Rev Dr Eric Abbott, former Dean of Westminster Abbey, will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Friday, July 8, 1983. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets to The Registrar, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by no later than Friday, June 24. Tickets will be posted on Friday, July 1.

YORK HOUSE ST. JAMES'S PALACE June 9. The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Sir Richard Buckley at the Memorial Service for Brigadier the Right Hon. Sir John Smyth, VC, which was held in the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields this morning.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE June 9. Princess Alexandra was represented by Miss Mona Mitchell at the Memorial Service for Brigadier the Right Hon. Sir John Smyth, VC, which was held in the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh is 62 today. A memorial service for Sir Ronald Campbell will be held today at St. Columba's Church of Scotland, Post Street, at noon.

Mr Douglas Wilson regrets that owing to absence abroad he was unable to attend the memorial service for Brigadier Sir John Smyth, VC, yesterday.

Mr T. J. Parsons and Miss F. M. Wallis. The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of Mr and Mrs Keith Parsons of Charlton, Surrey, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Mrs Margaret Wallis and the late Mr Malcolm Wallis, of Bromley, Kent.

Mr N. K. Woodrow and Miss N. C. Maxwell. The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs M. Scott-Hayward of Capetown, South Africa, and Seonaid, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. C. Mackenzie, of Santiago, Chile.

Mr A. W. Davies and Miss S. V. Parnell-King. The marriage took place on Friday, June 3, between Mr Andrew William Davies and Miss Susan Victoria Parnell-King at Kensington and Chelsea Register Office, followed by a service of blessing on June 4 at St. Mary, The Boltons. Mrs Sally Kellett was the matron of honour and Mr John Berry was best man.

A reception was held at the Royal Society of Medicine, Chandos House, and the honeymoon is being spent in Devon.

Vandals threaten Roman walls. Repairs costing £10,000 over five years are needed to repair and preserve the city walls at Chichester, Sussex, which date from the Roman occupation.

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Mr D. L. Haxby has been elected President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The other officers elected for the ensuing year are Mr A. M. Taylor, senior vice-president, Professor E. L. Souleby, junior vice-president and Mr J. A. Parry, treasurer.

Charterhouse. The following have been recommended for election to Music Scholarships: 1. R. J. Rowland, Newland House School, Twickenham; 2. P. H. Roberts, King's College, Westminster; 3. A. R. Boyd, Charterhouse.

Giggleswick School. The following awards have been made for entry to the school this autumn term: Scholarships: N. J. Oddy, Charterhouse; 1. J. Woodrow, of Burgess Hill, Sussex; 2. M. J. Smith, of Bromley, Kent.

Albert medal. The Royal Society of Arts has awarded the Albert Medal for 1983 to Sir Arnold Hall, FRS, chairman of Hawker Siddeley, for his 'outstanding contributions to the aeronautical industry and in particular to aeronautical engineering'.

Van Dyck statue. A statue of Van Dyck, court painter to Charles I, was unveiled in Anwerp yesterday to mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of the British Consulate General there.

Latest appointments. Lord Coggan to be chairman of the executive committee of the Council of Christians and Jews. Mr C. R. Hitchings to be president of the pharmaceutical society of Great Britain.

New bishop. Canon Gordon Bates, precentor of Liverpool Cathedral, who was consecrated Bishop Suffragan of Whitby in a service at York Minster yesterday. Canon Bates, aged 49, succeeds the Right Rev Clifford Barker, who is now Bishop Suffragan of Selby.



Picasso's design for Massine's costume as the Chinese Conjurer in the 1917 production of Parade was bought by the new Theatre Museum at a Sotheby's auction yesterday for £11,000. The ballet Parade, with a libretto by Jean Cocteau, music by Satie and choreography by Massine, was first performed by Diaghilev's Ballets Russes in Paris in May 1917, and marked Picasso's debut as a designer for the stage.

Reception. The Shipwrights' Company held their annual service yesterday at St Lawrence Jewry next-Guildhall. The Rev Basil Wainwright, honorary chaplain, officiated, assisted by the Rev J. Lowery, Chaplain to the Tower of London. Archdeacon Raymond Roberts, Chaplain of the Fleet, gave an address. After the service the Prime Warden, Sir Charles Alexander, the Warden, Mr J. E. Neary, Mr Alderman R. C. L. Charvet and Mr D. B. Kimber, past Prime Wardens, Assistants to the Court and Mr C. H. Baylis (Clerk) processed from the church to Haberdashers' Hall, where a reception was held.

Dinners. Tallow Chandlers' Company. The Tallow Chandlers' Company held a Court and livery ladies' dinner at their hall last night. The Master, Mr C. C. Living, presided and with Mrs A. Robertson received the guests. Baroness Phillips, Lord Lieutenant for Greater London, also spoke. Among the guests were: Guyneath Duchess of Portland and the Prime Warden of the Dyers' Company and Mrs E. R. Avory. Chartered Surveyors' Company. The Chartered Surveyors' Company held its ladies' dinner at Stationers' Hall last night. The Master, Mr R. B. Cawa, and the Junior Warden, Mr D. R. Male, and their ladies received the guests. The Master and Mr R. C. G. Strick were the speakers. Other guests included: Mrs R. C. G. Strick, the Assistant to the Stationers' Company, Mrs M. J. M. Strick, the Assistant to the Stationers' Company, and Mrs J. R. Strick, the Assistant to the Stationers' Company.

Service dinner. Royal Naval College, Greenwich. A mess guest night dinner held at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich yesterday officers of the Royal Artillery, Woolwich Garrison, Eitham Palace and the Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital were welcomed by Commander A. H. F. Wilks, president of the mess. Brigadier M. N. Nagle, Regimental Brigadier and Commander Woolwich Garrison, responded on behalf of the guests.

Exeter University. Exeter University proposes to hold a dinner in Exeter on October 1, 1983 for its graduates of the years up to 1955. Interested graduates are invited to write for particulars to Mr D. F. Berry, Room 213, Northcote House, The Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4JL.

£1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners

Table listing names and addresses of £1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners. Columns include names, addresses, and prize amounts.

Law Report June 10 1983 Chancery Division

Partner need not sign own expulsion notice. HITCHMAN v CBAS SERVICES LTD. Before Lord Justice Evershed, Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Dillon. [Judgment delivered May 26]. The provision of a clause in a partnership deed that a particular partner need be a signatory to a notice expelling any partner from the firm did not apply when that partner himself was the subject of the expulsion.

OBITUARY

PROF MOSES BLACKMAN

Research in solid state physics

Professor Moses Blackman, FRS, who died on June 3 at the age of 74, had been Professor of Physics at Imperial College, London, from 1959 to 1976. 'Morris' - as he was usually known and addressed - was born in Cape Town, took his first degree at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, and proceeded first to research in a theoretical physics - the school of Max Born in Göttingen. After two years there (1931-33) he spent two as Beit Fellow at Imperial College, and then two at Trinity College, Cambridge with R. H. Fowler. These six years of post-graduate work led to three doctor's degrees (Göttingen, London, Cambridge) and the production of a dozen papers, which included work of seminal nature - which gave Blackman immediate international recognition - on the theory of the dynamics of crystal lattices and the consequences for the macroscopic behaviour of specific heats and thermal expansion of solids.

Appointed to the staff at Imperial College in 1937, Blackman progressed by a combination of excellence in scholarship and devoted teaching to Professor of Physics in 1959, continuing as Professor Emeritus and Senior Research Fellow after formal retirement in 1976. During this period Blackman experienced, and indeed, notably contributed to, a transformation of scope in one of the major academic centres of physics in this country. The Department of Physics at Imperial College in 1937 was one of the best provided and largest but, by later standards, was unbelievably primitive and small-scale. It is to the credit of the senior of the team two professors (G. P. Thomson, FRS) that he recognized talent and, in effect, had Blackman appointed as the

MR MICHAEL DINKEL

Michael Dinkel, who died after a short illness on June 5 aged 88, was an artist of unusual versatility and energy, who was active in several different media. He was a member of the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours, an Associate of the Royal West of England Academy and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Glass Engravers. Born in Huddersfield in 1894, he had his initial studies there at the School of Art, followed by war service on the Somme, with the Royal Engineers. He resumed his art studies at the Royal College of Art, where in 1926 he won the Owen Jones travelling scholarship to study art and architecture in France and Italy. He did research on forgotten techniques of mural decoration, of which he became teacher at the College in the great era under Sir William Rothenstein.

MR HENRY BLYTH

The excellent obituary of Henry Blyth (June 2) did justice to his career achievements but said little of his remarkable skill and resourcefulness as a writer. His enthusiasm, which you rightly stressed, enabled him to bring a formidable energy to his work. Henry was never content to repeat or rehash any fact, however reliably stated, until his own sharp eye and probing mind had first confirmed it independently. The investigative quality of his research was at times almost of a forensic order. In Madeline Smith, his 1975 re-examination of the celebrated 'Not Proven' Scottish murder trial of 1857, Blyth paid a considerable sum of money on the open market for one of Madeleine's love letters, stolen from the court archives in 1890. He then arranged for tests to be carried out on this letter by Professor James Malcolm Cameron at the London Hospital Medical College. The stamp was removed from the envelope, and traces of saliva on the back of it were analysed in order to establish that Madeleine Smith belonged to blood group B. This was done to prove that the defendant had in fact written all the letters attributed to her. Saliva of a different blood group would have proved that she did not. More than a century after the trial, therefore, Henry Blyth was able to improve on the evidence that had been available to the jury.

Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas writes: As a colleague of H. D. Ziman both on The Times and on the Daily Telegraph may I supplement your notice of him (June 3)? Few even among close friends knew that H. D. stood for Herbert David; he was always known as Z. He had served his apprenticeship as a journalist on the Liverpool Daily Post and became a consummate master of his craft. When he left Printing House Square for Peterborough Court he became a leader-writer on the Daily Telegraph before becoming Literary Editor of the Sunday paper. His leaders were seldom delivered with more than a minute to spare, but they never required alteration. Between writing leaders made himself an expert on Belgian affairs and as a special

MR H. D. ZIMAN

BACK SUFFERERS! The relief you've been waiting for. Advertisement for OBAS orthopaedic beds, showing a bed and text describing its benefits for back pain relief.

سكزا من الأصل



THE ARTS

London's South Bank concert halls have been competing for audiences ever since the Barbican opened. Now they face the danger of becoming political footballs in the Greater London Council's struggle for survival. Bryan Appleyard reports on the recent dramatic moves by the GLC's ruling Labour group to take over the capital's most important musical venues

Hidden power in the outer office

Laurence Peterkin can now be reached on Mondays on Extension 7 at the Royal Festival Hall. Extension 7 rings in the outer sitting room of the office of Michael Kaye, the General Administrator of the RFEI and its two satellite halls, the Purcell Room and the Queen Elizabeth Hall. The rest of the week Peterkin is available on Extension 7397 at County Hall, headquarters of the Greater London Council. This week it has become apparent that, if you want to get anything done at the Festival Hall or if you have any plans for its future, your best bet is to call Extension 7 on Mondays and Extension 7397 the rest of the week.

involve the whole South Bank arts complex in the GLC's own battle for survival. During his reign at the GLC, Banks has been determined to bring the arts into the political arena. The battles have all been fought on the usual issue of elitist art versus community creativity. Ordinarily this would be of no more than passing interest, but the GLC just happens to be the freeholder of the whole South Bank site on which are housed, apart from the three concert halls, the National Theatre, the National Film Theatre and the Hayward Gallery.

major orchestras. These venues have avoided the municipal image, which clings to so many concert halls, by having an internal and independent management answerable to but separate from County Hall. Peterkin's appearance in Kaye's outer office means all that is about to change. Banks has, for the last six months, been edging slowly in the direction of a full-scale assault on the halls. In December he spoke of turning the RFEI into a round-the-clock arts centre. In February an exhibition entitled 60 Years of the USSR was staged in the foyer, a political marker which the leaders at County Hall took delight in laying down. In April Banks announced a drive to halt the decline in audiences and a week later he closed the "silly, inappropriate and snobbish" champagne bar.

It was that month Peterkin appeared on the scene and immediately big direction signs sprouted aimed at overcoming the maze-like anonymity of the South Bank. The building of a new pier outside the Festival Hall, a ruling that all concerts should start at 7.30pm, and the open foyers policy all happened with significant rapidity. Banks and Peterkin are making a point - that County Hall could get things done when it wanted to. They were also winning some friends. The history of the halls has been characterized by a generally leisurely quality. Credit-card booking, for example, came appallingly late. It was not that management had failed to see the need, it was simply that entrenched work practices needed to be revamped. But a written report by Peterkin - the real purpose of his efforts - has raised many doubts. This is now going through a staff consultation procedure and will come before Banks's committee next Wednesday. It is almost certain to be adopted and Michael Kaye, Shirley Cooper, his deputy, and Anthony Phillips, the planning manager, are all now in negotiation about their own positions.

The key element of the report is that the halls should now be run by three departments within County Hall: general administration, lobby and foyer management and planning. An assistant would be appointed to Lord Birkett, the director of Arts and Recreation, with special responsibility for the halls. Events at the halls would be promoted in the GLC arts diary, not the traditional monthly diary, and the drive to bring all-day life to the halls would be intensified. The report appeared without consultation with the orchestras and promoters, a factor which has already lost some of the sympathy Banks had won by his changes. Some feel that this may set the pattern for the new method of running the halls, effectively reducing the say of the main customers. In addition it is feared that the move into County Hall would lay the groundwork for the Festival Hall to become just another municipal concert hall with all the bureaucratic and planning inadequacies that implies.

The main fear, however, is that the GLC's determination to bring more people to the South Bank will result in radical changes to the concert programmes. Both Peterkin's report and Banks himself say categorically that nothing will be done to damage the halls' reputation as venues for music of international stature. But how will more tickets be sold to draw average attendances up from the pitifully low level of 61.3 per cent at which they languish now? Banks argues forcefully that new life in the foyers and surrounds will produce more sales. But ideas like a fair for children during the day scarcely seem likely to affect the box office. The basic problem remains: the Barbican has not created a new music audience in London, so there are now two major venues fighting for the same public. The possibility of changes in the Festival Hall programming policy is alarming the orchestras, who are pressing for meetings with Banks. Some of them are already in poor financial condition because the London recording business has, if anything, slumped more damagingly than the concert receipts. They need their regular South Bank dates. There is a continuing threat that the number of major independent orchestras will be cut from four to three and all are constantly manoeuvring not to appear redundant. Wider attention must focus on the Conservative manifesto promise to abolish the GLC. The South Bank represents in many respects one of its most indigestible assets - too vast for the borough of Lambeth to take on and too diffuse and complex to attempt to create a new and specific unified authority. Banks's assault on the site, which has also involved an offer to take over the Hayward Gallery from the Arts Council - will enmesh the GLC more intimately with the South Bank and create some spectacular publicity in the process. Further inquiries can be addressed to Mr Peterkin on Monday on Extension 7.



Tony Banks of the GLC: determined to bring the arts into the political arena

For children of an uncertain age. Generation gaps and gadgetry: Vijay Amritraj (left), Roger Moore and Desmond Llewellyn in Octopussy.



- Octopussy (PG) Odeon Leicester Square
Malou (15) Gate Bloomsbury
Doll's Eye (15) Rio Dalston
Hallowe'en III: Season of the Witch (15) Classics Haymarket, Oxford Street, other cinemas

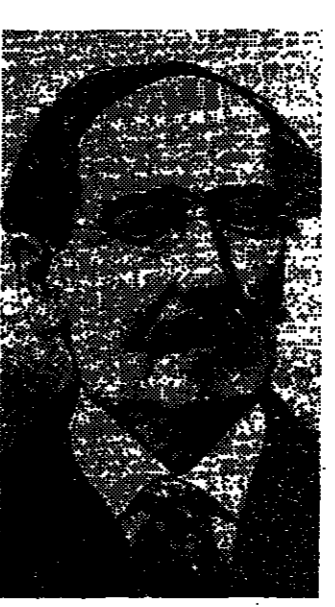
which way he voted yesterday. The ruse of the Soviet arch-villain (Steven Berkoff) is to stage an "accidental" nuclear explosion at a US army base in Germany so as to give false credibility in the West to the anti-nuclear "wets", seen as Moscow's best friends. Bond, agent of the Hawks, foils him. The Bond view of women becomes more naive and more naïvely reactionary. They are expected to be masterful but still feminine, tough yet subservient. Octopussy ends with Bond being rowed by well-built and sparsely dressed girl galley slaves. Feminism is a fiction rapidly demolished. When Bond learns of an all-female community he simply marches in on it to prove that all that these amazons have been waiting for is the sexual fulfilment which he can and will amply supply. More day-dreams for the under-elephants in spirit.

The essence remains the same, as does the casting of Bond (a now more cautiously dashing Roger Moore), Miss Moneypenny (Lois Maxwell) and old O (Desmond Llewellyn). Only the details change from film to film: Octopussy is set in India and East Berlin; the supporting cast includes Louis Jourdan (a well-kept 64) and Maud Adams (a well-built 38). This is John Glen's second Bond film as director and George MacDonald Fraser's first as writer, though his script collaborators, Richard Maibaum and Michael G Wilson, are Bond veterans.

Jeanine Meerapfel's Malou is considerably more worthy of attention. Like a lot of the best debate, it has a basis in autobiography. The director's parents, like Malou (Ingrid Caven) and her husband (Ivan Desny), left Germany to emigrate to Argentina. Like Malou's daughter Hannah (Grischa Huber), Jeanine Meerapfel herself was born there, and only returned to Germany as a grown woman. The film is about Hannah's search to rediscover her mother, and parallels two lives and two eras - a young, married, immigrant woman in Germany in the Thirties, and a young, married, immigrant woman in Germany in the Seventies.

John Higgins visits the Vienna Kammeroper, where tradition treats even Wagner with the healthiest disrespect. The paradise of parody

On the far side of the Ring from the Vienna State Opera there is tucked away the Vienna Chamber Opera. The two companies have no common ground except that they both get varying degrees of state subsidy and the tiny house allows itself an occasional joke at the expense of the large one. Indeed the Kammeroper was formed 30 years ago to play small-scale works - Rossini, Wolf-Ferrari, Pergolesi and Offenbach are regulars in the repertoire - in Schönbrunn when the Staatsoper was closed. Then in the early Sixties the Kammeroper found itself a city home in the Fleischmarkt, not a part of town generally visited by tourists, but whose dialogue can be imperceptible to anyone with no more than passing acquaintance with Viennese dialect, wrote a parody of Tannhäuser which became rather more popular than Wagner himself in the Austrian capital. The Kammeroper dared to take it to Bayreuth a couple of years back. But the composer who has been yielding most riches is A. Müller, yet another Hungarian, who wrote the incidental music for most of Nestoy's output. He also composed Othello, Der Mohr von Wien (Othello, the Moor of Vienna) and Der Barbier von Steyer, a parody of Rossini's most famous opera. It was as if Gilbert and Sullivan had sat down and knocked out a little piece entitled King Lear of Leytonstone.



Müller: forerunner of Gilbert and Sullivan

After a midsummer stint back in Schönbrunn with Johann Strauss's Wiener Blut the Kammeroper plans another Wagner parody, again by Nestoy, next season, Lohengeln, with the original score by Franz von Suppé. Now that has not been heard for a year or two. And the successors of Nestoy, Müller and Suppé are still with us when Andrew Lloyd Webber's Cats opened on Broadway it did not take Rats long to follow Off-Broadway.

Television Tidy side

Basil Scruby had a vision: to take 400 acres of fields and woods just 22 miles by train from London and turn them into a suburban paradise that would rival Letchworth and Welwyn Garden City. Bank clerks, insurance clerks and, oddly because they must have lowered the tone, newspapermen came to breathe in deeply, gaze on the greenery and look at the houses built in a style that would be called Tudorbethan. They thought it good. It was, and is, Petts Wood, a place where to neglect a grass verge was a sure way to isolate yourself from society. Nothing good would be said about you over the hedges and a drink by the pub would be a lonely business. The story of Petts Wood, Kent, and Mr Scruby's vision was told, rather less well than it might have been, given the material, in BBC2's Britain in the Thirties last night. Satisfied customers of Mr Scruby and descendants of satisfied customers came forth to confirm the desirability of living there. Mr Scruby planned well and built well but blotted his copybook when he sold land to the west of the railway line to estate developers who were green-eyed, too, but about money. The depression compelled him to do it but, possibly feeling he was letting the pin-stripe side down, he neglected to consult the occupiers on the east side. They suddenly became prey to that most horrific of British apprehensions: that they would have to live with the wrong sort of people. Other developers came, too, building houses with flat roofs and rounded bays. This obviously inhibited casual conversations in railway carriages - they all had to share the same station - because one never knew which side of the track one's neighbour came from. The sports club reflected these tensions. It was some time before the east side people were allowed in and a witness suggested that it took a war to convince people they were really on the same side, and that the wrong sort of people were really somewhere else. It was a good idea, this suburban idyll, but it really needed a Benjamin to bring out the flavour.

The discovery of the James Bond pictures may not be profound, but it is crucial: if you assume an average intellectual age of around 10 in the audience, you will hit the broadest spectrum of the paying public. The Bond films have proved the point by selling a billion tickets. Today's James Bond is Korby the Kat, Pansy Potter the Strong Man's Daughter and Lord Snooty and His Pals rolled into one. His adventures and ruses are straight out of Dandy and Beano - hanging on the tails of high-flying aeroplanes, crossing man-infested rivers disguised as an alligator, playing will o' the wisp with guided missiles and deceiving them so that they land on the enemy that launched them. Though it is hard nowadays to stay abreast of real-life technology, Bond's flying jeeps, fountains-pen lasers and other toys are still the products of strip-cartoon magic. The paradox is that, while the adventures are juvenile, the adventures are, in years at least, certainly not. Since James Bond has to stay the most eligible male around, with rare exceptions (the young Indian tennis star Vijay Amritraj has a guest spot in Octopussy), the principal male characters are all safely past the half-century. In consequence the average age of men in Bond films is at least double that of the abundant female support. Perhaps in part it is because of this striking age gulf that Bond films so accurately hit the point of learning sexuality where the attitudes of early adolescence and early senility coincide: in a Bond film even a phrase like "fill me up again" becomes, on the lips of a lady, double entendre. Though immature, James Bond is by no means apologetic; and there is no doubt

London debuts. Despairing emotions. the opera house perhaps? Someone else to listen out for is the violinist Edika Klempner. The second half of her recital in particular revealed a virtuosic technique and an artistic sensibility which ensured her talents were put to intensely musical effect. Miss Klempner was a convincing convincing campaigner for Howard Ferguson's snerky Second Sonata (in which she was ably supported in the strenuous piano part by Gordon Back), and she tackled with infectious flair a showy if slender Scherzo by Richard Monaco, combining emphatic violinistic gestures with the noises of mid-western fair-ground music. For her final piece Miss Klempner chose another recital, Szymanowski's Notturno e Tarantella. Here she explored to the full the violin's muted colours in the first piece and gave the second (marked by razor-sharp left-hand pizzicatos) with a winning dash and brilliance.

David Robinson. Geoffrey Norris. Her work, Encounters, set to Stravinsky's Concerto in D for string orchestra, is no great revelation of new talent, but the movement is lively and frequently amusing. The performance on Wednesday was often rather ragged in the relation of dancing to music, but the outcome was promising and moderately entertaining. Falco's Hero is for three men and three women to music that seems to combine an Italian quality with a kind of scat singing, written and/or recorded by Frank Tusa, Badal Roy and Rhada Shottan. The action is as

enigmatic as the title (one of the women seemed the most important character - Leander, maybe, or the leading man's valet?). But the movement is often exciting and the confrontations of one dancer with another provide a kind of unspoken drama. Sometimes the effect was abrasive, sometimes seductive. The climax developed through intensification of the choreographic demands rather than any dramatic thread, but as the bodies hurled themselves into wider, faster arcs, or hinted at greater threat or allure in their encounters, so a physical exhilaration gradually developed. Of the seven ballets brought to London, this is the one which best reveals the dancers as exciting performers.

Ballet Gulbenkian Sadler's Wells. The second programme by Ballet Gulbenkian at Sadler's Wells to be repeated tomorrow afternoon and evening proved more interesting than the first by virtue of a more rewarding contribution from Louis Falco and representation of another Portuguese choreographer, Olga Roriz, one of the company's soloists. Her work, Encounters, set to Stravinsky's Concerto in D for string orchestra, is no great revelation of new talent, but the movement is lively and frequently amusing. The performance on Wednesday was often rather ragged in the relation of dancing to music, but the outcome was promising and moderately entertaining. Falco's Hero is for three men and three women to music that seems to combine an Italian quality with a kind of scat singing, written and/or recorded by Frank Tusa, Badal Roy and Rhada Shottan. The action is as

Dance Enigmatically exciting. John Percival. phic demands rather than any dramatic thread, but as the bodies hurled themselves into wider, faster arcs, or hinted at greater threat or allure in their encounters, so a physical exhilaration gradually developed. Of the seven ballets brought to London, this is the one which best reveals the dancers as exciting performers.

Advertisement for Malou wine, featuring the name 'Malou' in a stylized font and the word 'CONFIDENCE' in large letters.

Marilyn de Bieck has a matured, mellow-toned mezzo voice and knows just how to use it. Framed by Haydn concertos and Vaughan Williams's Four Last Songs, her programme ranged widely through Beethoven, Schumann, Duparc and Schoenberg, and to each Miss de Bieck brought unusual insight. She has a refined ability to think herself to the heart of a song and convey its spirit with affecting accuracy. Perhaps this was most in evidence in Schumann's Gedichte der Königin Maria Stuart, where the bleak texts were projected with resigned, despairing emotion.

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Advertisement for 'THE OTTOMAN ART' exhibition, featuring a logo with a crescent and star and the text 'An exhibition of beautiful Antique Turkish Rugs and Kilims'.

Advertisement for GATE BLOOMSBURY cinema, featuring the name 'GATE BLOOMSBURY' and 'CONFIDENCE' in large letters.

Plessey rises to record

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings begin, June 8. Dealings end, June 17. Contango Day, June 20. Settlement Day, June 27.

The appetite of broker Scrimgeour Kemp Coe for shares in Plessey, the electronics group, shows few signs of being satisfied. Yesterday the price surged 17p to a high of 764p - a gain on the week of 37p - as investors continued to chase the price higher in a thin market. Some dealers estimate that Scrimgeour has bought over 6 million shares in Plessey in the past fortnight, a point strongly denied by Scrimgeour.

A spokesman at Scrimgeour says: "We have been buying the shares over a period, but we have not done anything like what people are saying. We are not specialists in the electrical sector and do a lot of business there. We certainly have not bought 6 million - I wish we had."

The Americans are thought to be fans of the shares, amid rumours of a lucrative contract soon to be announced by the group. But Plessey says it has no knowledge of such a contract. However, with the jobbers still

short of stock the price may still have some way to run. Meanwhile, equities maintained their poise partly helped by the Plessey performance and BTR's victory celebrations. The latter closed 30p higher at 472p after winning control of Thomas Tilling in Britain's biggest takeover battle.

A large surge saw Trident TV's shares close 8 1/2p higher at 91p after a "buy" recommendation from brokers Fielding Newton-Smith. Apparently interim figures out shortly are expected to show pretax profits of £5m followed by £10m for the year against just £4m for the whole of last year.

Dealers are now looking for pretax profits of between £40m and £300m from BTR next year. The FT Index continued to scale new heights, closing 1.7 up at a record 716.4, having been 2.9 up earlier in the day. Confirmation of a Conservative victory in the polls is expected to give an extra boost to shares, despite the pessimism displayed earlier in the week.

Glits spent a good day despite worries of prospect of higher interest rates, both in the US and Britain. Scattered gains of up to 1/2p were reported, but the bulk of issues at the longer end of the market showed little change after late profit-taking. This followed news from the Government broker that supplies of the £1,000m of 10 1/2 per cent Treasury convertible had been exhausted.

On the foreign exchanges, the pound closed 0.8 cents up at \$1.5780. Elsewhere, shares of Eagle Star were a strong market, climbing 16p to 408p. Shares of Rio Tinto-Zinc, the mining finance group, unchanged at 562p, have often been tipped as a likely contender to make such

group Allianz, with 29 per cent of the shares, to make a full bid now that its hopes of buying Thomas Tilling's Cornhill Insurance have suffered a setback.

Brokers Wood Mackenzie have been aware of General Accident after the group's under performance in Britain and the continuing problems in the United States. Dividend growth is also unlikely to match the higher yields of other companies. As a result the brokers recommend switching into GRZ, up 3p to 46 1/2p and Royal, up 5p to 49 1/2p. General Accident lost an early lead to close 1p up at 43 1/2p.

Also on the takeover front, shares of Tricentor, an old favourite, received a late boost climbing 16p to 240p. Shares of Rio Tinto-Zinc, the mining finance group, unchanged at 562p, have often been tipped as a likely contender to make such

a move, but the group has always denied its involvement. Last night RTZ was parrying rumours of a different kind. Word in the market suggests the group may be the next to raise money on the Eurobond market, a course already taken by companies such as MEPC and ICL.

Shares of Hawker Siddeley went into a steep dive falling 8p to 364p yesterday's article in the Times market report that it was preparing to bid for all, or part, of John Brown, the engineering group. Shares of John Brown climbed 1p to 27p before closing unchanged at 26p.

The directors of Intasun, the holiday group, were amused with yesterday's piece in the Times that the National Farmer's Union was selling its stake to pay off debts. The story should have referred to the NFU seeking in FMC, the meat processing group, where an offer for sale in 10 million shares has been delayed a month.

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for issue name, price, and other details.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and other details.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for country, price, and other details.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for authority name, price, and other details.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for bank name, price, and other details.

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies

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SHIPPING

Table of shipping companies with columns for company name, price, and other details.

MINES

Table of mining companies with columns for company name, price, and other details.

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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RUBBER

Table of rubber companies with columns for company name, price, and other details.

TEA

Table of tea companies with columns for company name, price, and other details.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table of miscellaneous companies with columns for company name, price, and other details.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company name, price, and other details.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table of sterling exchange rates for various currencies.

Money Market Rates

Table of money market rates for various financial instruments.

Other Markets

Table of other market rates including gold, dollar spot rates, and Euro deposits.

Gold

Table of gold prices and related market data.

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City Editor Anthony Hilton

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1A 9EZ Telephone 01-537 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 716.4 up 1.7 FT All Share 442.89 up 1.84 Data stream estimate Bargains: 21,716 Tring Hall USM Index 172.7 up 1.7 Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones index 8468.12 up 22.87 Hongkong Hang Seng index 883.10 down 3.94 New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1183.19 down 2.31

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5805 up 1.05 Index 87.4 up 0.5 DM 4.06 up 0.03 FF 12.2025 up 0.10 Yen 384 up 5.0 Dollar Index 125.5 down 0.1 DM 2.5672 up 4pts Gold \$407.75 up \$5.25 NEW YORK LATEST Gold \$407.75 Sterling \$1.5815

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10-9 1/2 Euro-currency rates 3 month dollar 9 3/4 3 month DM 5 1/2 3 month Fr 14 1/4 ECAD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period May 4 to June 7, 1983 inclusive: 10.334 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

H. & J. Quick 41p + 5p KCA Int 50p + 5p BTR 472p + 42p Brackley Mines 226p + 20p Eisburg Gold 255p + 20p Bryant Higgs 64p + 5p Atlantic Res 40p + 4p Gt Portland 132p - 12p B Elliott 35p - 3p T Marshall Lox 32p - 2p Copper Nile 17.5p - 1p SKF 'B' £11.25 - 62.5

TODAY

Interests: Bruno Dean, Elson and Robbins, Greenfield Leisure, Spring Grove, Tompkins. Finales: Carless Capel and Leonard, P Panto, Pilkington Bros, Somer. Economic statistics: Usable Steel Production (May), Building Societies monthly figures (May).

NOTEBOOK

- MACHINE TOOL group B Elliott and the Engineering 600 Group have both experienced in Britain's engineering industry. But there are some rays of hope. Investors' notebook page 20. COMET GROUP staged a substantial recovery in the first half of its present year as compared with the first half of last year. Its future looks bright as well. Investors' notebook page 20. VALOR, manufacturer of consumer gas appliances, is not doing too badly in its traditional interests, and has the added spice of a stake in oil exploration in the English Channel. Investors' notebook page 20.

WALL STREET

Stocks turn lower

New York (AP - Dow Jones) - Stocks retreated yesterday after giving up a modest early advance. The Dow Jones industrial average was down about 3 1/2 points after losing its initial gain of 4 1/2. But the transportation average was ahead about 2 points. Declines took a small lead over advances while the trading pace was moderate. Mr Anthony Ludovici, vice-president at Tucker Anthony & R L Day, said the "firming at the opening was the result of bargain hunting. Investors had anticipated a tick upwards in interest rates and a downturn in stocks as a result which we have seen in the past couple of days. So they came in." However, he said that prices began shading off as this buying began to dry up. "But it should pick up again later", he added. American Telephone & Telegraph was 3 1/2 up, US Steel 2 1/2 up, General Motor 6 1/2 off, International Business Machines 1 1/2 up, Federal National Mortgage 2 1/2 up, Union Carbide 6 1/2 up, Texas Instruments 1 1/2 down, 6 1/2 down 1 1/2. G. D. Searle was off 1/2 at 44 1/2, UAL up 1/2 to 37 1/2, Ford Motor up 1/2 at 52 1/2, Cochran Industries up 1 1/2 to 55 1/2, Sanders Associates 100, unchanged, and Southern Pacific up 1/2 at 70 1/2.

Refinancing agreed for Nigeria

A group of 23 European and American banks have agreed to refinance \$1.6bn (£918m) of Nigeria's overdue short-term trade debts. Barclays Bank International, which had led negotiations, said an offer had been made to the Nigerians to consolidate the debts into a three-year loan. The agreement marks an important step in attempts to ease Nigeria's liquidity problems. Heavily dependent on earnings have been reduced by the fall in oil prices, and a large backlog of overdue trade debts has built up. However, five of the original banks involved in discussion have not gone along with the refinancing plan. Originally 28 banks were involved but four European banks and one American bank appear to have dropped out. The three-year loan is repayable monthly, starting next January. It carries interest at 1 1/2 per cent over London interbank rate with an option of 1 1/2 per cent over the US prime rate. There is also a 1/2 per cent front end fee. The Nigerian Government is expected to agree to the refinancing proposals, having earlier rejected an 18-month refinancing plan. The loan agreement is also expected to include commitments from banks to provide extra trade credits to Nigeria at a later stage. However, banks are not expected to increase their exposure without Nigeria agreeing to an International Monetary Fund programme. Nigeria has already approached the IMF for assistance to solve its balance of payments problems. However, presidential elections in Nigeria this summer are likely to delay agreement on a possible economic programme to satisfy the IMF's lending criteria. Details on the full extent of Nigeria's debt problems remain cloudy.

Rising pound leads to worries over exports City expects early base rate cut as confident markets edge higher

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent An air of quiet confidence pervaded the financial markets yesterday as the pound, shares and government stocks all edged higher in expectation of a decisive Conservative victory at the polls. There were growing hopes for an early cut in the banks' base lending rates. Interest rates in the London money markets, which had fallen sharply on Wednesday, eased further yesterday and are only a little above levels which would point clearly to a base-rate cut of half a percentage point from the present 10 per cent. Three-month interbank money - a guide to where base rates are heading - dipped below 10 per cent for the first time in seven months. It is as most of the City now expects, starting is further strengthened by the election results, a base-rate cut may come as early as next week. The pound yesterday made gains against all leading currencies, rising more than a cent against the dollar to \$1.5805 and 3 pennings against the Deutsche mark to DM 4.06. Its trade-weighted index increased by 0.5 to 87.4 per cent of its 1975 level. The markets are now reasoning that the pound has risen to levels which could put in jeopardy the prospects for exports and economic growth over the coming months by making British industry once again very uncompetitive in world markets. This makes it highly likely that the Government will cut interest rates to bring the pound down or stop it rising further. Sterling has risen by 12 per cent from its March trough and is now only 5 per cent below last November's level before the original slide began. Industry is especially concerned about the Deutsche mark rate. At well over DM4, most economists believe the pound is substantially overvalued, adversely affecting exports. More than half of exports go to Europe where the mark is the dominant currency. The second factor making lower interest rates more likely is the threat from the building societies that, if rates do not come down by the end of this month by at least 1/2 per cent and preferably 1 percentage point, mortgage rates will have to go up in July. This would not be a pleasant prospect for the Government within weeks of the election. The building societies will announce today that they took in funds of only about £320m last month, half the amount they need to maintain their record lending levels. Unless banks lower their rates, enabling the societies to compete more effectively for deposits, the societies will have to raise their own rates, with the effect of choking off some of the demand for mortgages. These two factors are likely to outweigh in the Government's mind misgivings about recent money growth and government borrowing figures, the markets believe. In keeping with the optimistic mood, the convertible tap 10 1/2 per cent 1987 was exhausted and other stocks made small gains. The FT 30 index added 17.6 to reach a new peak of 716.4.

Two-month CGBR rises £1,000m

Central government borrowed £1,717m last month, bringing the total for the first two months of the financial year to £2,969m, nearly £1,000m more than at the same time last year. The figures, which were considerably higher than the market had been expecting, were received calmly. The Treasury said almost all the extra borrowing this year was due to local authorities and state industries borrowing from the Government's national loans fund rather than from the private sector. This has been deliberately encouraged by the Government to ease problems of monetary control. The effect is to push up central government borrowing, but the key public sector borrowing requirement (which

includes local council and state industry borrowing from other sources) remains unaffected. Spending by central government is, however, running slightly above Budget estimates, which predicted a rise of 5.6 per cent this year. In the first two months of 1983-84, however, spending was 7.5 per cent higher than in the same two months last year.

The market wins its Spurs

By Michael Clark "Oscar" Ardiles, Glen Huddle and the rest of their teammates at Tottenham Hotspur Football Club could be swapping their blue and white stripes for bowler hats, and pin stripes suits after the north London club's decision to go for a full listing on the stock market. There were red faces at White Hart Lane yesterday after it was discovered that the club's intention to offer extra shares for sale had been leaked. Mr Peter Day, club secretary, hurriedly issued a statement saying, "I expect the chairman to be writing to shareholders probably next week." But he denied suggestions that the shares would be quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market - the Stock Exchange's version of the second division. "It is not true we will be coming to the USM. What our plans envisage is a full Stock Exchange listing." But before the club can even consider a flotation it must do something to reduce its mounting debt totalling nearly £4m. Details are expected next week of a big capital reconstruction and rights issue to raise more than £1m. Of the 92 Football League clubs more than 90 per cent are losing money. The move for a public flotation of a new holding company appears to be the brainchild of Mr Douglas Alexander, secretary and former chairman and one of Spurs' biggest shareholders. Mr Sidney Whaley, and the man who recently deplored Mr Arthur Richardson, the last chairman, in a bitter boardroom coup last year. Meanwhile, Spurs fans can already buy shares in the club along with 22 other clubs, including famous Arsenal, Aston Villa and Manchester United. At present there are only 8,000 £1 shares in issue. These were last traded at around £220, valuing the club at just £1.76m. At the last count the entire first team was worth more than £5m. The expected £3m offer for sale will be brought to market in the autumn by brokers Sheppards & Chase - just in time for the new football season. Spurs are expected to forecast profits of over £250,000 in the current year to accompany its offer for sale. Investors' Notebook, page 20

Lord Inchcape: no profits forecast

Lord Inchcape, the chairman of P & O, contemptuously dismissed the £290m takeover bid for the shipping giant Trafalgar House at his company's annual meeting yesterday, by saying that he had no intention of making a profit forecast to fight off such a low bid. The assets of P & O were worth the values shown in the balance sheet, he added, but again there was no intention of publishing a revaluation with the bid at current levels. But Mr Eric Parker, Trafalgar's managing director, said the bid would be reviewed only if P & O made a forecast. "If they come out with £60m or £70m we would review, of course", he said. But he added that he thought the problem was the other way. "I am extremely suspicious that the figures are going to be awful and that is why they will not produce them," he said. "They have a history of promising things for tomorrow but they keep coming out with awful results. This has been the pattern of the last 10 years. Lord Inchcape, who confirmed that he has postponed his retirement to lead the fight against the takeover, took pains to counter Trafalgar's claims that the assets were overstated in the books. "Our defence will dispel these doubts", he said. Mr Parker, also took exception to some Lord Inchcape's statements at the meeting. "There were the usual inaccuracies about 'flagging out' (putting British ships under foreign flags)", he said. "It's rubbish to say Cunard Line is run from the US, it is run from the United Kingdom. It is true we have a bigger staff in the US but that is because 80 per cent of our passengers are American and we need a big sales force." Lord Inchcape also said the Canberra had been on its way to the Falklands within 60 hours of being requisitioned while the QE2 took eight days. "That's because it was all under the control of the military. Anyway the QE2 is faster than their old banger," said Mr Parker. But today P & O will be running more advertisements in the press concentrating on its claims that P & O's passenger ships are run much more efficiently than Cunard's. The adverts will show P & O's flag next to the skull and cross bones under the caption: "It won't work. We have different standards." The "lengthy" P & O defence document will appear next week.

Tilling minority may resist BTR offer

By Sandy McLachlan After a "civilized meeting" between directors of victorious BTR and defeated Thomas Tilling yesterday afternoon, the Tilling board was locked in discussions last night with its advisers, S.G. Warburg, deciding whether to recommend to shareholders who have not accepted the BTR offer to do so now. BTR announced yesterday that between purchases of shares in the market and acceptances of the £660m bid, it had acquired 61 per cent of the Tilling equity. Normally in such a situation the loser would bow out and advise other shareholders to accept. However, it is believed that S.G. Warburg takes the view that the Tilling board should not advise acceptance, on the grounds that BTR has acquired Tilling on the cheap, and that non-accepting shareholders should retain their Tilling shares and remain as a substantial minority. At the Wednesday evening press conference called by BTR after its victory was confirmed, Mr Owen Green, the managing director, said that he did not foresee any great problems about compensation to Tilling directors if they left the group. "We would expect them to tender their resignations, in which case there would be no question of compensation payments even if the resignations were to be accepted", he said. However, it appears that no resignations were offered at the first meeting between the two Any prolongation of the BTR-Tilling battle - easily the biggest ever takeover in Britain - would only add to the cost of what has also been by far the most expensive bid battle ever fought. Full acceptance of the bid would involve BTR in a total cost of something over £20m, much of which would be stamp duty on the transfer of shares. However, both sides have incurred considerable costs in other directions. BTR has had to pay underwriting costs on that part of its 22 1/2 cash alternative which was underwritten, and both sides will face hefty fees from their financial advisers - Warburg for Tilling, and Morgan Grenfell for BTR.

Tring Hall urges inquiry

By Jeremy Warner Tring Hall Securities has asked the City of London fraud squad and Stock Exchange officials to investigate certain share dealings in an associated company. Papers have been passed to the two authorities by Mr Robin Eve, the merchant banker brought in as Tring's chief executive to rescue the unlisted securities house just over two months ago. Mr Eve confirmed yesterday that he had passed on certain papers but declined to specify the nature of the investigation which he seeks. Tring sources are concerned over share dealings in a company which it brought to the Luxembourg exchange. The City police confirmed that documents were being studied. "But these are nothing to do directly with Tring Hall as a company itself", he said. Tring's Luxembourg-quoted parent company, Commercial Development Finance Corporation (Holdings), is presently fighting off a takeover bid mounted by Haverford Securities, a consortium specially formed for the purpose. Haverford has now established a "working relationship" with the Monaco-based International Communications Technology Holdings, in which Tring has a 12.6 per cent holding. The stake is regarded as its main investment. Haverford has said that detailed discussions are taking place whereby the resources of Haverford's substantial investment clients could be available to ICT if the takeover is successful. An invitation has been issued to certain Haverford directors to join the board of ICT once the bid has gone unconditional. Tring Hall has been responsible for a large number of company flotations in the unlisted securities market. But for the 12 months to the end of March, made a substantial loss. Earlier this week Tring's managing director Mr Dennis Poll and co-director Mr Chris Baker resigned from the board. No public reason was given.

Reuters uncertainty over ownership

By Our Financial Staff Reuters, the international news agency turned financial services group will hold its annual meeting at noon today in an aura of total uncertainty about its future ownership. The meeting in Goldsmiths Hall in the City, will confirm a second dividend of £5.8m. But it seems unlikely that the newspaper publishing companies that control Reuters through the Press Association and the Newspaper Publishers Association will receive much of this money in the short run. Still more uncertain is the tantalizing possibility that they will be able to enter full valuation of their indirect shareholdings in Reuters in their balance sheets even though this would probably be worth more to the Fleet Street publishers than all their newspapers put together. The attempt by Fleet Street owners, led by the Express Group Fleet Holdings, to realize this unexpected pot of gold has become bogged down in legal problems over trusts bickering among NPA members about who is entitled to what share and doubts among many provincial newspapers about the effect on the reputation of the news service of any substantial change. Mr Richard Winfrey, chairman of the Press Association, which runs a domestic news service and represents provincial newspapers, said yesterday that "the realization is not going to happen for some time yet if at all". He told the Press Association's annual meeting on Wednesday that any deal must be acceptable to PA's 70 members, but it was vital to protect the principle of independence enshrined in the present trust and ownership arrangements, and that some of the Reuters profit must remain with PA to support its own news service, set to lose £2m this year.

Interim profits quadruple at Comet

By Our Financial Staff Comet Group, the electrical retailer, quadrupled its profits to £12.7m in the half year to end February, compared with the previous first half. Commenting on the figures, the chairman said: "Sales of electrical appliances have been exceedingly buoyant. Comet does not do much hire-purchase business, but the lifting of the HP restrictions seems to have had a considerable effect on sentiment in general." Although the Comet figures reflect a lack of rationalization costs that appeared in the previous period, there is evidence of a genuine increase in retail spending - concentrating on higher margin and more expensive products such as colour TV sets and video recorders. Group turnover rose by 44 per cent to £194m through its 200-plus shops - of which 165 are electrical retailers and the rest in the home improvement business. The group is planning to increase its dividend for the year by a quarter, and is either opening or refurbishing stores at the rate of one a week. Mr Hollingbery attributed the turnover increase to a discretionary spending available to consumers. "There is no noticeable difference in performance between our stores in depressed areas and those areas which have suffered less from the recession", he said. "If you accept that 90 per cent of most people's income goes just on living, then even a 3 per cent increase in real income represents a 30 per cent increase in the amount available for discretionary expenditure." Investors' Notebook, page 20

Wall Street ponders fate of outspoken Fed chairman Speculation may force Volcker move

By Graham Searjeant Speculation on the future of American financial policy reached new heights yesterday as President Reagan seemed close to a decision on the chairmanship of the Federal Reserve Board, the US central bank. Rumours were round Wall Street that the White House would announce last night whether Mr Reagan would reappoint the controversial Mr Paul Volcker, whose term of office expires on August 2. There were also rumours that Mr Volcker himself would call a press conference. Both these rumours were denied, with the Federal Reserve stressing that any announcement would be handled solely by the White House. However, as with Mrs Thatcher opting for a June election, it seems certain that the weight of speculation will force the President to move quickly to remove uncertainty. From a broad field including monetarist guru and Nobel prize-winner Professor Milton Friedman, most insiders now believe the decision will boil down to a choice between Mr Volcker and Mr Alan Greenspan, a former chairman of the council of economic advisers. Mr Greenspan is not rated an ideologue and has been mainly concerned with domestic policy. Mr Volcker's image has changed over the years from that of a hard-line central banker prepared to lit recovery on the head in the interests of

Volcker: was many friends anti-inflationary policy to that of a much more pragmatic figure. Of late he has won many friends outside the United States by his more sympathetic attitude to the problems of exchange rate instability. Yesterday, Mr Donald

Recovery under way for H&J Quick Group. A complete change in management structure was undertaken during 1982 by H & J Quick Group. Ford Motor Dealers, in his annual statement Mr Norman Quick, Chairman, commented on their extensive reorganisation and the prolonged recession in a fiercely competitive market. A pre-tax loss was reported in spite of a 7% increase in sales. Group turnover was £85,152,000 (1981 - £78,604,000) Trading profit was £974,000 (1981 - £980,000) Loss before tax was £118,000 (1981 - Profit £49,000) Final Dividend of 1.45p per Ordinary Share remains the same as 1981. The restructuring throughout 1982 is already proving effective. Stricter financial control has reduced borrowing requirements and the sale of Newgate, Chester showroom for £7m has further improved the position. With reductions in bank rate, interest charges are lower than in the same period in 1982. Retained profit margins are being improved and changes in marketing policies are already showing turnover ahead by 11% on last year. There is still some way to go but a much better all-round performance in the first four months of 1983 indicates that the Quick Group can anticipate reasonable profits at the year end.

Industrial notebook

Cable contestants draw battle lines

The announcement by Goldcrest Films and Television, that it has formed a consortium with five American partners to provide programming via satellite to British cable operators is a significant move in the British cable television industry.

The Goldcrest announcement is significant for a number of reasons. First, the expansion of cable television has been a subject of much debate since March 1982, when a Cabinet Office report, prepared by the Information Technology Advisory Panel was published.

The consortium - Goldcrest, Columbia Pictures, CBS, Home Box Office, and Twentieth-Century Fox expects its peak operational deficit to be about £20m but to be in profit in four years.

The second benefit of the Goldcrest consortium is that it will be a stimulus to the British film industry. Such claims from any other source would be treated with derision.

Halifax names chairman
Mr Richard Hornby has been appointed chairman of the Halifax Building Society in succession to Sir Raymond Potter, who has retired.

Base Lending Rates
ABN Bank 10%
Barclays 10%
BCCI 10%
Consolidated Crds 10%
C. Hoare & Co 10%
Lloyds Bank 10%
Midland Bank 10%
Nat Westminster 10%
TSB 10%
Williams & Glyn's 10%

The Korea Development Bank
Floating Rate Notes Due 1989
In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the six month Interest Period from 3rd June, 1983 to 5th December, 1983 the Notes will carry an Interest Rate of 10 1/4% per annum and the Coupon Amount per U.S. \$1,000 will be U.S. \$52.35.

Engineering groups emerging with scars

B. Elliott
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax loss £4.84m (£1.44m)
Stated earnings -2497p (-19.11p)
Turnover £82.8m (£105.2m)

600 Group
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £3.29m (£4.86m)
Stated earnings 4.9p (8.3p)
Turnover £135m (£120m)

The desolate state of parts of Britain's engineering industry was borne out by yesterday's results from B. Elliott, the machine tool merchant and manufacturer, and to a slightly lesser degree by results from 600 Group.

B. Elliott at least appears to have halted the rise in its borrowings, largely by slashing stocks which have fallen from £38m in March 1982 to £29m at the latest year-end.

Nevertheless, the two competing groups have drawn the battle lines. Satellite Television will be transmitting by the end of the summer on the European satellite ECU-1 which is due to be launched by the end of this month.

Asset value slips at Portland

By Baron Phillips
Property Correspondent
The long-awaited fall in property asset values has emerged in the end-of-year results for Great Portland Estates.

A weaker lettings market and lack of growth in Great Portland's traditional area of operation, London's West End, have contributed to a lower valuation figure.

Other leading companies in the sector have largely escaped falls in net asset values because of foreign properties in their portfolios which, on paper, have held up because of a weaker pound.

But Great Portland has managed an advance in pretax revenue in the 12 months to March 31. It has risen from last year's £13.5m to £15.8m on gross rents higher at £16.1m against £14.1m.

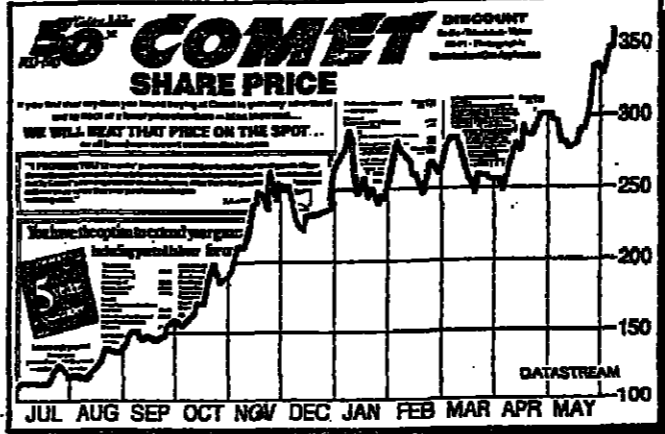
The board is recommending a final dividend of 4p a share, making a total of 5p a share for the year. This compares with 3.43p and 4.29p a share respectively.

T. C. Harrison: At the annual meeting of T. C. Harrison, the chairman, Mr Edward Harrison, reported that the pattern of trading for 1983 had changed significantly compared with last year.

Everards Brewery
Half-year 31.3.83.
Pretax profit, £294,000 (£282,000).
Turnover, £8.01m (£7.86m).

Westland
It will take at least six months before the British and Italian Governments are ready to release funds for the development of the new EH 101 helicopter programme, Lord Aldington, chairman of Westland, said yesterday.

Granville & Co Limited. The Over-the-Counter Market
Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, P/E, Yield



Comet Group

Comet Group
Half-year to 28.2.83
Pretax profit £127.8m (£4.1m)
Stated earnings 24.8p (9.7p)
Turnover £194.5m (£358m)
Net interest/dividend 2.0p (1.47p)

The 15p rise in Comet Group shares on yesterday's half-year results is well justified, even if the forecast of a 25 per cent dividend increase for the full-year still leaves the company on a yield of just 2.18 per cent.

Lloyd's US rival 'on sound footing'

By John Lawless
New York's Lloyd's equivalent, the Insurance Exchange, has made a "very sound" start in its first three years but it will probably be seven years before anyone can judge its performance.

That is the view of Mr John Regan, chairman of Marsh & McLennan, the world's largest insurance brokers, in London yesterday.

Of the new US markets established in Chicago and Miami, he concluded: "I do not see any need for them, and now there is talk of one in Toronto. I do not mean to knock them but I just do not see the need."

Asked how much business New York was likely to snatch from London, Mr Regan said: "I think that, let us say, over the next 20 years, New York will get a share of a market that will have grown. But remember that at one time London had 80 per cent of the marine business, and now that is down to a half."

In the three years of its existence, there has been little positive evidence to show that it has even dented Lloyd's market share in spite of LLOYD's own problems.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

- Everards Brewery: Half-year 31.3.83. Pretax profit, £294,000 (£282,000). Turnover, £8.01m (£7.86m).
G. T. Global Recovery Investment Trust: Year to 31.3.83. Revenue, £577,000 (£758,000). Stated earnings, 3.45p (3.91p). Net dividend, 3.5p (3.5p).
Slidrow Group: Half-year to 1.4.83. Pretax profit, £2.42m (£1.73m). Stated earnings, 17.5p (14.01p). Turnover, £20.48m (£17.88m). Net interest/dividend, 5.0p (2.5p).
Glossop: Year to 31.1.83. Pretax profit, £354,000 (£529,000). Stated earnings, 2.0p (8.5p). Turnover, £24.72m (£15.19m). Net dividend, 5.08p (5.08p).
John Beates Associated Companies: Year to 19.3.83. Pretax profit, £461,000 (£211,000). Stated earnings, 12.0p (5.5p). Turnover, £12.48m (£10.96m). Net dividend, 3.0p (1.5p).

Norsk Data
The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted 1,700,000 Class B Shares (Non-Voting) of par value NOK 20 each to the Official List. This follows an Offering of 1,500,000 American Depositary Class B Shares (Non-Voting).

partly accounts for the 44 per cent turnover increase. Comet is coy on its margins, but it does admit to a gross margin improvement. More than that, it says margins are up by more than 7 per cent. What it will not say is from what to what.

If there is a note of caution, it is that improvement will not be so easy now that the group is approaching 10 per cent of the retail electrical appliance market, and challenging Curry's as market leader. On the other hand, it is still catching up, has other items in the fire, and looks a good lockaway growth stock.

Valor

Valor
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £2.54m (£2.11m)
Stated earnings 14.16p (11.10p)
Turnover £80.89m (£51.14m)
Net final dividend 2.55p making 3.5p (2.85p)
Share price 116p up 4p. Yield 4.3%.

As a consumer products manufacturer, Valor, the gas appliance group, could perhaps take heart from the buoyant sales at Comet, which sells some of its products.

But according to Mr Michael Montague, the chairman, the upturn at Comet has been of little benefit to Valor. The boom is all in home entertainment products, not gas cookers and heaters, he says and Comet's experience backs this up.

\$14m loss at Dean Witter

New York (AP - Dow Jones) - Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. said yesterday that neither its customers nor its capital had been hit by unauthorized transactions in cash commodities.

The firm, however, said it had suffered a \$14m (£8.5m) loss as a result of the fraudulent scheme.

The unauthorized transactions involved a scheme by which dealings in cash commodities including gold, silver and foreign currencies, were effected by Shukry A. Mishnick, a former account executive in Dean Witter's New York office.

Mishnick pleaded guilty yesterday to a Federal mail fraud charge in connection with the investigation, Dean Witter said. Dean Witter has also been informed that William H. Fellus, another former Dean Witter account executive, had been arrested in the same investigation.

WALL STREET
Table with columns: Date, Price, Change, % Change, Volume, etc. for various stocks.

Citicorp Overseas Finance Corporation N.V.

Citicorp Overseas Finance Corporation N.V.
(incorporated with limited liability in the Netherlands Antilles)
Unconditionally guaranteed by CITICORP
Notice is hereby given that the Rate of Interest has been fixed at 10 1/4% per annum and that the interest payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date, September 12, 1983, against Coupon No. 16 in respect of U.S.\$1,000 nominal of the Notes will be U.S.\$52.78.

The Mortgage Bank and Financial Administration Agency of the Kingdom of Denmark
Guaranteed Floating Rate due 1990, Series 84
Unconditionally guaranteed by The Kingdom of Denmark
Notice is hereby given that the Rate of Interest for the initial period has been fixed at 10 1/4% and that the interest payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date 9th December, 1983 against Coupon No. 1 in respect of US\$10,000 nominal of the Notes will be US\$52.42.

Handwritten note: 150 من الالصل

RUGBY UNION: CAMPBELL ILL, SO RUTHERFORD KEEPS PLACE AGAINST SOUTHLAND

Melville's first chance to work into the Lions pattern

From Don Cameron Invercargill
The British Lions might have referred to a rehearsal to their second international team against Southland tomorrow...

kicked superbly at Greymouth on Wednesday and if he can approach the same form tomorrow, he might well challenge MacNeill for an international place tomorrow week.

national, might have expected to play. Calder played with marvellous spirit and skill against the moderate opposition at Greymouth when the Lions gaped themselves on a feast of forward possession and running...

play on both wings, but his one appearance on the left against Bay of Plenty, produced a series of errors in handling and defence.

man who has played international rugby and World Cup cricket for New Zealand and whose name probably still ranks high in the Wales chamber of horrors after his match-winning penalty goal in the 1978 international at Cardiff.

Also, Southland have a rather basic approach to forward play, which involves moving anything that appears above the grassplots. This should give Melville a testing introduction to life with the Lions.

Batty blackens a few British names and bemoans a lack of real quality

Ground conditions which are sure to deteriorate from now on, will certainly not help. The backs won't get any faster or more elusive; they won't suddenly start passing faster or with more panache.

British backs, ever since their All Black counterparts tugged the forelock in subservience on that 1971 tour, have been in alarming decline. Backs running across the field rather than forward in direct and decisive manner; aimless kicking downfield without care, craft or precision.

what JPR did to us on that tour - his style and quality was as new in its own way as round-the-corner goal kicking. "It took J. J. Stewart to revive All Black rugby back play after that debacle we suffered. He put our threequarters and therefore All Black rugby, back on line. He did it as much by selecting players with skill as by his attitudes and coaching methods."

Inherent within that statement lies the crux of Beattie's criticism; that the players of quality do exist among British threequarters. "I don't necessarily think you have brought them with you on this tour."

"One obvious name which comes to mind is Mike Slemmon. Two years ago he looked the greatest left wing in world rugby, and whoever you are, I don't believe you lose that kind of ability in a season."

Batty accepts the great quality of Holmes and Campbell without a trace of dissent. But he warns: "Your forwards will only be good enough to achieve parity at best against the All Black pack. But when the ball goes to the backs, I don't believe you have anywhere near the quality required to win the series."

Batty on song: "either you have it or you don't".

Thompson is saving himself for Helsinki

By Pat Butcher
Daley Thompson finally bowed to the adverse conditions, and the lack of any real opposition in his decathlon in Toronto, and decided to husband his resources for the most important event of the season, the first world championships in Helsinki in August.

European title and world record in Athens, Thompson had gone to Australia intent on raising his record even further, but the wind precluded any such attempt.

The irony of the second day's start was that the wind blew Thompson to a good time in the 110 metres hurdles, but it was over the two metres per second limit allowed for record purposes.

Carlos Lopez, who just failed to win the World cross country championship in Guatemala last March, is returning back for the Great North Run on June 19.

Rumbles of discontent at new league format

By Nicholas Harling
First division clubs, who asked the English Basketball Association (EBA) to devise a new format, are bringing in extra revenue to cover their large outlays on imported American players, have not greeted the EBA's solution with unanimous approval.

John Carter, the general manager of Scarborough said: "We are not too happy about it. Of course we would like to play our extra game against all the top teams, but that would be having our cake and eating it."

Steve Assinder, the Birmingham guard, has been recalled to the England team after an absence of more than two years. The squad of 11 competes in the Kirinwark tournament in Japan, starting next week against Stamford University.

Terry Doherty, their general manager, said: "I don't really see the point. Clubs can make more money from the extra games but I'd have thought a better solution could have been found and would have been more beneficial to everyone."

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds table with multiple columns for various financial entities and their details.

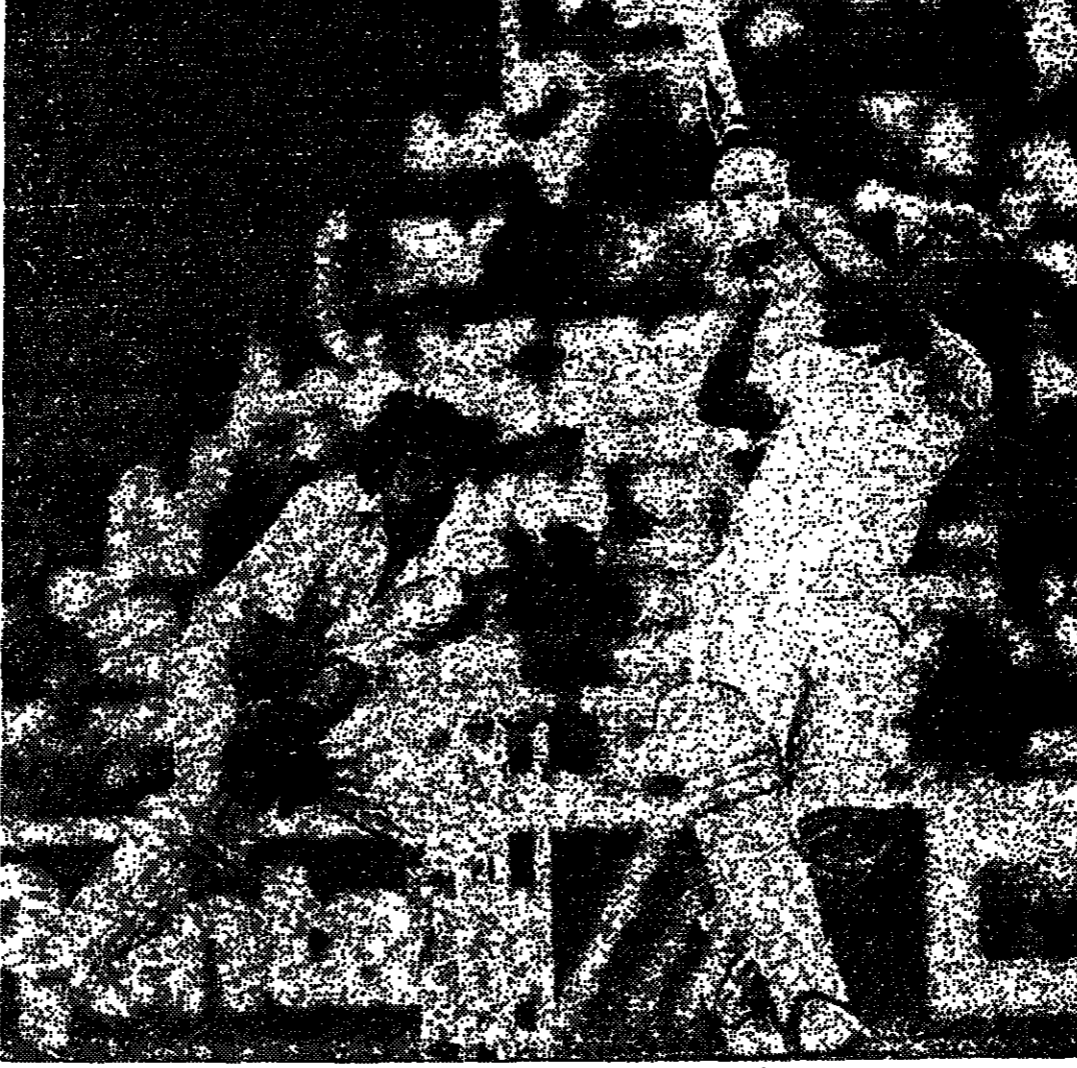
CRICKET: JUBILATION FOR ENGLAND, DEVASTATION FOR AUSTRALIA IN PRUDENTIAL WORLD CUP

England cast off the winter's doubts

Australians in a shock defeat

HC sen 69. ...

England made a fine start to the Prudential World Cup by outplaying New Zealand in doing their side's first innings...



A nice cut of Lamb for New Zealand (left) while Dilley shows little taste for dalliance in England's thunderous conclusion.

do on the off side. Taveré was out in the over before lunch, which was taken at 119 for three...

much care for. Turner had begun well. Between these two setbacks for New Zealand, Wright mishooked Dilley...

crowd found his batting. England's encouraging form and the sunshine made for an agreeable evening.

outcome, as did Curran later in the day when given out caught by Pycroft, playing forward in the pull...

A fatherly spirit at the crease

BRISTOL: Gloucestershire, with eight second innings wickets in hand, lead Somerset by 213 runs.

Palmer, a 17-year-old, is the son of K.E. Palmer, formerly of Somerset and England, and now an umpire on the first class list.

Quality in an age of change.



SCOTCH WHISKY Matthew Gloag & Son Ltd. Perth, Scotland.

A classic example by Pakistan

SWANSEA: Pakistan scored a record total for the Prudential World Cup. Sri Lanka's chances of winning this Group A match were inevitably remote.

against the off spinner, Fakih, and Muddasar helped keep the score moving.

Now W Indies have to think

did not have one of his better bowling days, and Gomes replaced him, and also took some punishment.

Promising youngsters are bogged down

HOVE: Sussex with all second innings wickets in hand, lead Kent by 78 runs.

Oxford U Northants

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First innings 228 for 8 (G S Barry 84, N A Maitland 71 not out, R G Williams 60).

Another century for Butcher

An innings of 119 by Butcher, his second century of the week, rushed Middlesex to a first innings lead of 119 runs against Warwickshire.

Worcestershire: Lynch's first century of the season boosted Worcester's bid for their first Championship win.

Table of cricket scoreboards for matches like Essex v Notts, Hampshire v Lancs, Leicestershire v Yorks, etc.

Table of cricket scoreboards for matches like Middlesex v Derbyshire, Worcestershire v Warwickshire, etc.

Table of cricket fixtures for various matches including Prudential World Cup, Second XI Championship, etc.

Advertisement for Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky, featuring a bottle image and brand name.

TENNIS: THE APPEARANCE MONEY QUESTION

McEnroe speaks out in Vilas case

By Jerome Caminada

The game of tennis and the politics of tennis became thoroughly mixed yesterday at the Queen's Club tournament...

McEnroe said he thought that the suspension of one year and fine of \$20,000 (about £12,500) imposed on Vilas was unjust...

Before delivering this judgment, McEnroe, with his racket in his hand, showed his accustomed flair and dexterity...



McEnroe was also on the attack on court yesterday (Photograph by Chris Cole).

Miss Barker cannot find a way to stop her slide to defeat

By Richard Eaton

There were tears from Sue Barker and rueful smiles from Evans Cawley after the end of the two most popular players of the tournament...

There were contracts in the two defeats in other ways, too. Miss Barker, beaten 6-3, 6-0 by Yvonne Vermaak...

While the "Azzari" national football side has let all of Italy down less than a year after lifting the World Cup...

His convincing win in the Giro has made Italian aware of a new sports star to replace the fallen soccer idols...

He followed that by triumph in the Milan to San Remo classic this season...

Lord Lee jumps last but is first

By a Special Correspondent

Geoff Billeton, riding Lord Lee, which the Cheshire rider has partnered only since last December...

Brazil warn Chesterfield the Welsh take-over

By Paul Newman

As there is only one other League club in Cardiff, they have a large catchment area from which to draw supporters...

EQUESTRIANISM

Pyrah's day of glory for Britain

By Jenny MacArthur

The British had a successful opening day at the Nations' Cup meeting here yesterday...

Pyrah was the second to go in the jump-off, and none of the 12 who followed could beat his time of 42.17secs...

Earlier yesterday, the first class of the jumping, a second class, was won by the Italian, Michele de la Casa...

At the moment King would only take the final place if a second string of 12 was sent to Florida in October...

GOLF

King gets the right kind of inspiration to crown his day

By Mitchell Pleats

In calculating the composition of the European Ryder Cup team for the match against the United States in October...

What was more impressive than the eight birdies he collected was the manner in which he remained untroubled by a poorish drive and a curved three-iron second shot...

FIRST ROUND LEADERS:

- List of golfers and their scores: 1st M King, 68; H Babcock (SA), D Frost (SA), J... 2nd W Westwood (SA), A Chandler, J Hall, P... 3rd D Sheppard, G Foster, T Horton, D Cooper...

King: remained calm

A profitable English pair flick of the wrists last the pace

By John Heeney

With little more than a flick of the wrists, Vanessa Marvin earned almost as much in a few seconds yesterday as she had done in her four previous years as a professional player...

Statistically, Miss Marvin's prize equals the reward for Harold Henning's hole in one at Moor Park in 1963...

The fifth at Hill Barn is a tricky little hole, measuring 125 yards, but judging the distance is influenced by an elevated tee and a tree intruding on the left...

Gathering storm in Glasgow

By Paul Newman

A political row could break out over an invitation to a South African golf tour...

Miss Figueroa-Dotti was in superb form and went to five under for the day with four successive birdies from the seventh...

MOTOR CYCLING

Rutter makes fine start

By Paul Newman

Tony Rutter snatched a dramatic win in the Isle of Man formula TT yesterday, to make the best possible start to the defence of his world championship...

Rutter's win was his third in a row and it was also the third for the Italian Ducati...

Hosts angry as Scots progress

By John Nicholls

Mexico City (Reuters) - Scotland beat Mexico 1-0 here on Wednesday evening to win their group and move into the quarter-finals of the world youth championship...

Result of other election will be known today

By Paul Newman

The most extensive election campaign ever mounted by a club applying for membership of the Football League ended today at the League's annual general meeting at the Café Royal in London...

Brazil warn Chesterfield the Welsh take-over

By Paul Newman

As there is only one other League club in Cardiff, they have a large catchment area from which to draw supporters...

Brazil warn Chesterfield the Welsh take-over

By Paul Newman

Brazil gave Wales, their next opponents on their three-week tour of Europe, a warning of what to expect in Cardiff on Sunday when they defeated Portugal 4-0 in Coimbra on Tuesday night...

Australia's acting manager Frank Arnott has selected four new players for the international against England at Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday...

FOR THE RECORD

Table with columns for Athletics, Football, Cycling, Baseball, Rugby Union, Golf. Lists various sports events and results.

FOOTBALL

Table showing football fixtures and results for various leagues including Premier League, Championship, etc.

BASEBALL

Table showing baseball game results, including teams like New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, etc.

ATHLETICS

Table showing athletic events and results, including track and field, swimming, etc.

RUGBY

Table showing rugby match results and fixtures.

RACING: ROYAL ASCOT DOMINATES THE THINKING

Trumpet with a fearless sound

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Boy Trumpet can draw attention to Fearless Lad's chance of winning the King's Stakes...

return for Lester Piggott's services. His good run behind Seabreeze...

Alan Mackay, who rode Grand Unit so well yesterday...



Houghton: won first two races at Newbury

Genuine joy for Say Primula

By Michael Seely

Say Primula and Superlative earned themselves a tilt at Royal Ascot's rich prize money...

including a Zetland Gold Cup under (1st 5th)...

Handstap can stake his claim to be regarded as one of the finest two-year-olds...

The key race, as far as next Wednesday's Royal Hunt Cup at Ascot is concerned...

York

Draw: No advantage. Tote: Double 3.20, 4.20. Treble 2.45, 3.50, 4.50.

2.15 EL CAPITRANO VILLAS HANDICAP (Apprentices: £2,540: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

2.45 EL CAPITRANO STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,475: 6f) (10)

3.50 THE UNION OF YORK TURF CLUB STAKES (2-Y-O Fillies: £2,792: 5f) (8)

4.20 MERCHANT ADVENTURERS STAKES (3-Y-O maidens: £2,620: 2m) (7)

4.50 MERCHANT TAYLORS HANDICAP (£2,771: 7f) (21)

Newbury results

2.30 SANDOWN PARK Draw advantage: low numbers best. Tote double 3.5, 4.10. Treble 2.30, 3.35, 4.45.

2.30 JUNE STAKES (2-Y-O maidens fillies: £3,551: 5f) (20 runners)

2.30 FOODBROKERS OF ESHER HANDICAP (£3,350: 1m 2f) (14)

3.5 TIC-TAC SWEETS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,831: 7f) (16)

3.5 ALMA CONFECTIONERY STAKES (3-Y-O maidens: £3,426: 1m 2f)

4.10 ALINGTON STAKES (£4,728: 5f) (11)

4.15 SANDOWN SELECTIONS

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Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 150 من الالمان





BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM. Births: Aikenhead, On 6th June to Colin and David...

IN MEMORIAM. LESCHKE - In loving memory of my father, Fred, who died on 10th June 1982...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. TIMSWAY IS YOUR WAY TO GREECE. JUNE SPECIAL OFFERS. HOLIDAYS INCLUDE FLIGHTS, TRANSPORT, MARINE SERVICES...

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PERSONAL COLUMNS. LAST MINUTE BARGAINS. 10.17 ATHENS, GREEK ISLANDS. 11.18 GREEK ISLANDS...

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